THE

SCOTS MAGAZINE,

AND

Edinburgh Literary Miscellany,

FOR APRIL 1807:

With a View of St MICHAEL'S CHURCH, LINLITHGOW.

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State

State of the BAROMETER, in inches and decimals, and of Farenheit's THERMOMETER, in the open air, taken in the morning before sun-rise, and at noon; and the quantity of rain-water fallen, in inches and decimals, from March 26. to April 25. 1807, in the vicinity of Edinburgh.

1807 March	Barom.	Thermom. M.	Thermom. N.	Rain. In. Pts.	Weather.
26	30 2	31	48	—	Cloudy
27	30.	32	47	—	Ditto
28	30.	33	46	0.01	Showers
29	29 9	35	42	—	Cloudy
30	29.8	37	45	—	Clear
31	29.61	30	46	0.01	Snow
April 1807. 1	29.75	31	46	0.02	Ditto
2	28.76	27	43	0.01	Ditto
3	29.	38	47	—	Clear
4	29.8	37	43	—	Ditto
5	29.75	36	47	—	Ditto
6	29.7	41	49	0.1	Rain
7	30	40	48	0 11	Ditto
8	29.8	45	46	—	Clear
9	29.31	45	43	—	Cloudy
10	29 25	43	50	0.011	Rain
11	29.1	46	51	0 01	Showers
12	29.	45	50	0 02	Ditto
13	29 6	34	55	—	Clear
14	29.75	33	50	0.01	Showers
15	29 81	35	49	—	Clear
16	29.85	29	50	0.1	Snow
17	29.9	25	50	—	Clear
18	29.8	30	49	—	Ditto
19	29.5	29	43	—	Ditto
20	29.1	33	42	0.01	Snow
21	29.	32	45	—	Cloudy
22	29.2	37	41	—	Showers
23	29.2	35	42	—	Ditto
24	29 81	43	55	—	Ditto
25	30.	43	60	—	Clear
				—	
			Quantity of Rain	0.421	

High Water at LEITH, For MAY 1807.

Days.		Morn. H. M.	Even. H. M.
Fr.	1	9 40	10 1
Sa.	2	10 22	11 43
Su.	3	11 4	11 25
M.	4	11 46	——
Tu.	5	0 7	0 29
W.	6	0 51	1 14
Th.	7	1 38	2 2
Fr.	8	2 27	2 53
Sa.	9	3 9	3 46
Su.	10	4 13	4 41
M.	11	5 8	5 36
Tu.	12	6 3	6 31
W.	13	6 58	7 25
Th.	14	7 51	8 17
Fr.	15	8 42	9 8
Sa.	16	9 33	9 59
Su.	17	10 25	10 51
M.	18	11 17	11 43
Tu.	19	——	0 10
W.	20	0 38	1 6
Th	21	1 34	2 3
Fr.	22	2 32	3 0
Sa.	23	3 29	3 56
Su.	24	4 24	4 50
M.	25	5 17	5 41
Tu.	26	6 6	6 29
W.	27	6 52	7 14
Th.	28	7 36	7 57
Fr.	29	8 18	8 38
Sa.	30	8 59	9 19
Su.	31	9 40	10 1

MOON's PHASES, For MAY 1807.

Apparent time at Edinburgh.

	D.	H	M
New Moon,	7.	4	52. even.
First Quart.	14.	10.	47. even.
Full Moon,	21.	4.	30. even.
Last Quart.	29.	7.	51. morn.

OBSERVATIONS.

7 Duchess of York born. (1767.)
12. Session sits.
15 Whitsunday Term.
17. Princess of Wales born. (1768.)
19. Queen Charlotte born (1744.)
21. Gen. Assembly sits.
22. Princess Elizabeth born (1770.)
29. King Charles II. Restoration (1660.)

THE

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Scots Magazine,

AND

EDINBURGH LITERARY MISCELLANY,

FOR APRIL 1807.

Description of ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH, LINLITHGOW.

THIS church is situated a little to the north of the town of Linlithgow, hard by the castle. It is a very elegant building, and may be regarded as a complete specimen of Gothic architecture. Its length from east to west is 182 feet; its breadth, including the aisles, 100; and its height about 90 feet. The time of its erection cannot be fully ascertained, but may probably be referred to David I. who distinguished himself so signally by structures of this kind.

The steeple is adorned with an imperial crown, which has a fine effect, from whatever point it is viewed. The outside of the church was adorned with several statues, and the niches remain; but in the height of anti-papal zeal, all the figures were demolished except that of St Michael, which escaped, more perhaps from its being placed higher than the rest, than out of respect to him, as the tutelary angel. That he was so reputed, however, appears from the stately church dedicated to him, from one of the wells which bears his name, and from the town arms, which exhibit him with this inscription, "*Vis Michaelis collocet nos in cælis.*" The roof of the chancel is both elegant and durable. It was erected by George Crichton, bishop of Dunkeld, who adorned it with the arms of that see, and the initials of his own name.

It was in this church that James IV. is said to have seen an apparition, dissuading him from his fatal expedition into England, which terminated in the battle of Floddon. The following account of this supernatural occurence is given by Lindsay of Pitscottie, in his history of Scotland, p. 111.

"The king came to Lithgow, where he happened to be at the time for the council, very sad and dolorous, making his devotion to God to send him good chance and fortune in his voyage. In this mean time, there came a man clad in a blue gown, in at the *kirk door*, and belted about him in a roll of linen cloth; a pair of bootikins on his feet, to the great of his legs, with all other hose and close conform thereto; but he had nothing on his head, but tyde red yellow hair behind and on his haffits, which wan down to his shoulders; but his forehead was bald and bare. He seemed to be a man of two and fifty years, with a great pyke-staff in his hand, and came first foreward among the lords, crying and spiering for the King, saying, *he desired to speak with him.* While at the last he

he came where the King was sitting at the desk at his prayers ; but when he saw the King, he made him little reverence or salutation, but leaned down groflings on the desk before him, and said to him in this manner, as after follows : *Sir King, my mother hath sent me to you, desiring you not to pass at this time where thou art purposed ; for if thou does thou wilt not fare well in thy journey, nor none that passeth with thee. Further, she bade thee mell with no woman, nor use their counsell, nor let them touch thy body, nor thou theirs, for if thou do it, thou wilt be confounded and brought to shame.*" He adds, that as soon as it delivered its message, it vanished like a 'blink of the sun, or a whip of the whirlwind.'

James V. ordered a throne and 12 stalls to be erected in this church, for himself and the Knights of the Thistle, intending their banners to be hung up there. But his sudden death after the battle of Solway, and the commotions which followed, prevented the execution of that and many more important designs.

The inside of this church does not by any means correspond with its outward appearance. Pennant declared the ruinous state of the floor to be disgraceful. The west part only is used as the parochial church, but the east part might easily be converted into a place of worship of equal magnitude.

Observations on the Provision made for the Education of the lower orders in the Metropolis, and other great cities of Scotland.

I Have observed with great pleasure the meritorious exertions of Mr Whitbread, in order to improve the circumstances of the poor in this country, and to correct those abuses and supply those deficiencies which are universally allowed to exist in the system of management adopted with regard to them. While I give every credit for upright intention, I may perhaps take occasion to state my objections to some particular regulations, trusting for forgiveness to the candour of the proposers of the measure. What I have now to suggest, however, is not a correction, but an extension, which I suspect may not be at present in contemplation.

Mr Whitbread has just announced, that the plan of public education, (the most unequivocally beneficial provision which his bill contains,) is to be brought forward immediately. Since this is the case, I shall not delay to state some considerations on this subject which have frequently occupied my mind.

It is, I think, generally supposed, that the education of the lower orders in Scotland is, by means of parochial schools, so thoroughly provided for, that its institutions for this purpose may serve as a model to those of other countries. The correctness of this statement I am ready to admit, so long as it is confined to country parishes. But the inhabitants of great cities form a numerous and increasing portion of the population of Scotland ; and the greater moral corruption to which they are liable, renders it still more important that this corrective should be applied. Now, I believe it to be a fact, that for the education of the lower orders in towns, there is at present no legislative provision whatever.

The town of Edinburgh, it is true, allows a salary of twenty pounds a-year to four English teachers. Why it should happen that there are only four, I know not, for the parishes are more numerous. But it is evident that in a town such as Edinburgh, the mere sum of twenty pounds, without house, school-house, or garden, (all which country schoolmasters have,) cannot enable them to make

make any material abatement in the rate of fees. Unavoidable circumstances, however, prevent even these four from being of any avail towards the object now under consideration. The Magistrates of Edinburgh, in disposing of these salaries, naturally bestow them on the persons best qualified for teaching English, who are within their reach. But these persons will not submit to the drudgery of teaching, for a small fee, the lowest of the people. They will receive, and of course will prefer, the employment of the higher classes, who are better able to remunerate their services. These schools accordingly are, I believe, attended almost exclusively by the children of persons in the middle and higher ranks. The common fees of attendance are 7s. 6d. a quarter, which, including the expence of books, Candlemas gift, &c. cannot fall much short of 2l. per annum. To educate a large family in this manner would absorb a very large proportion of the income of a day-labourer.

There may, I believe, be a few straggling charity schools. I know of three; one supported by the Town of Edinburgh, another by the subscription of a few individuals; a third attached to Gillespie's Hospital. But this is obviously insufficient for a population of nearly an hundred thousand inhabitants; not to mention that schools supported by the legislature ought not to be mere charity schools.

The following, according to the last returns, is the amount of population contained in the different great cities in Scotland:

Edinburgh and Leith -	82,560
Glasgow - -	77,385
Aberdeen - -	17,597
Paisley - - -	31,179
Greenock - -	17,458
Perth - - -	14,878
Dundee - - -	26,084
Inverness - -	8,732
Montrose - -	7,974
Dumfries - -	7,288
Dunfermline - -	9,980
	301,115

Now, by the present system, this great number, amid the utmost want of instruction, are left altogether unprovided with the means. This deficiency, though it has not been the subject of any national complaint, has not passed altogether unnoticed. Dr Small, in treating of the parish of Dundee, mentions "as the greatest of all its disadvantages, the almost total want of public institutions, even for the most simple and necessary parts of education;" and in the account of Greenock, it is stated, "that there are nearly 1200 children whose parents are unable to defray the expence of their education." It is sincerely to be hoped that the respectable persons employed in framing the bill, may not, from a general impression of the good state of parochial education in Scotland, overlook this most grievous want under which she labours.

I shall not at present make observations upon any particulars of the scheme which might be adopted for this purpose. This will be done better after the details of the English system shall be unfolded.—The first step towards any improvement is the conviction of its being wanted; and if this shall be be in any degree produced by the present paper, my object will be attained. *Philopenetes.*

Description of the CANAL *leading from the Black Sea to* CONSTANTINOPLE.

By M. Chevalier.

THE windings of the Bosphorus, a canal from the Black Sea to the Propontis, are not insensible, and gliding, like those of rivers; they are, on

on the contrary, sharp and angular; from space to space, its banks present an obstacle perpendicular to its course, which diminishes the impetuosity of its current, and renders it more calm, and more navigable.

At quitting the Pontus Euxinus, it follows the direction of north east to south-west, to the gulph of *Boioukdéré*, whence it bends westward till it approaches the promontory *Kislar Bouroun*. Again resuming its north easterly course, it reaches Constantinople, where it enters the Propontis.

In a word, the Bosphorus forms seven different *elbows*, which occasion the same number of currents, whose strength is felt in particular directions. These seven currents have so much power, that vessels in full sail, and impelled by the most favourable wind, have some difficulty in overcoming them. In the last war between the Turks and Russians, I saw the Ottoman fleet obliged to be towed, to the very entrance of the Black Sea. The effect of these currents on the port of Constantinople, is to prevent its being choaked by accumulation of sand, &c.

The entry of the Bosphorus or canal of the Black Sea, is defended by two ancient castles, too widely separated to allow their fires to cross each other effectually; and too weak to resist the artillery of men of war, in a fleet; or even a spirited attack by land, which might be made by troops landed in the adjacent creeks or shallows.

The two new castles, constructed in 1773, being raised on bad principles, are nothing better, although nearer to each other; and may equally be carried by their gorge, or land-entry, that being left undefended

The new batteries of the two *cavacs* being built of masonry, as well as the castles already mentioned, the embrasures of which are only four or five feet above the level of the water, would be rendered untenable, by the superior fire of the artillery and musquetry of ships of war. It would be the same with the flying batteries placed under shelter, in some places along the quays of this strait. The evident hazard attending the discharge of these pieces, would render them useless, and demonstrates their insufficiency. Moreover, all this artillery is so defective, that it would be impossible to reckon on the accuracy of the aim taken, or on the readiness of the discharge, which on such occasions is peculiarly indispensable.

From this account might be inferred, the probability that an enemy, whose maritime power was predominant, might attempt to force the passage of this canal, and that he would infallibly succeed: but, if these castles and batteries, the defects of which we have noticed, should deter him from risking the enterprize, notwithstanding the apparent certainty of success, he might easily rid himself of all apprehension, by landing on the opposite sides of this strait, as well in Europe as in Asia, a small body of troops, which might carry them by a single onset at the gorge, where they have no flanks, and where of course a scalade would be easy. This attempt needs only a correct knowledge of the ground, which the natural enemy of the Ottoman empire might easily procure. There are several points, almost close to the castles of Europe and Asia, at which the troops necessary to force those fortresses, might be landed in a single night; while the artillery of the ships would create an useful diversion on the side of the sea. These points are, on the European shore,—several creeks or shelvings, from the light-house to *Eski-fanary*; being about four thousand fathoms of coast, which are usually chosen as places of safety by the saiques of the country; and where boats may easily land. On the Asiatic, at about two hundred fa-

fathoms from the castle, there is a spacious and sandy beach, formed by a beautiful valley, where runs a stream, which falls into the sea at this place. Notwithstanding the neighbourhood of the castle, as none of its guns bear on this beach, neither can it discover what is passing there: this would be a highly favourable spot for landing. Beside this beach, at seven or eight hundred fathoms further distant, is the gulf of Riva, divided into two parts by a peninsula. The ill constructed castle, situated in the bottom of the gulf beyond this peninsula, could not prevent the landing of the troops necessary to take it, which might be effected at the same time as the castle of Asia was assailed. It must be observed, that the ships of war requisite to protect the debarkation, may anchor every where close to the shore, and on a good bottom. By this plan, there is reason to conclude, that every one of these castles and batteries may be carried successively, in a single night, if the necessary precautions be taken; and this would, as we may safely infer, insure the capture, or at least the ruin of Constantinople.

In case the enemy, being unacquainted with the weakness and actual state of the defences of the canal, should decline the attempt of forcing the passage, it is probable, that to avoid tedious and wearisome marchings in a barren and desart country, he would attempt a descent on the shore of the Black Sea, as near as possible to this great city; that he would select a situation easy of defence, and where he might unite and collect the troops and stores necessary for ensuring the conquest of Turkey in Europe.

From the light house and castle of Europe to *Eski fanary*, the shore is composed of high and bold rocks, and eminences difficult to ascend: it presents, as already remarked, only certain narrow creeks formed by valleys, and by rills which fall into the sea; sufficient, no doubt, to admit the landing of troops equal to a sudden attack, but not spacious enough to accommodate the number necessary for a general descent. The coast from *Eski fanary* to Black Cape is different; and almost in any part of it a landing might be made. The villages of *Doumous-dere* and *Yenikeu*, at about half a league from the principal points of descent, furnish positions easily to be covered by intrenchments; and from whence a single march would bring an army before Constantinople.

Lit. Panorama.

Letters written to DR SMOLLETT, *by* ROBERTSON, HUME, *and* ARMSTRONG.

From Dr Anderson's Life of Dr Smollett, (5th edition.)

Dr Robertson to Dr Smollett.

Edinburgh, March 15. 1759.

DEAR SIR,

THOUGH I have great reason to return you thanks for the genteel and favourable treatment I have met with from the Critical Reviewers, and which has been, indeed, no other than I expected from your friendship; yet this is not the chief occasion of my troubling you just now. There was published a few weeks ago, a book called *Historical Law Tracts*. The author of it is Lord Kames, one of our Judges, a man of great knowledge and worth, and the friend of every person in Scotland to whom you wish well. I intended (in consequence of a permission which you granted your Scotch friends in your last letter to Carlyle) to have drawn up an article for this book, to be inserted in the Critical Review; and I thought myself tolerably qualified for this task by the attention I had been obliged to give to the history and progress of law in this country. But Millar has made so sudden and so violent a demand for a second edition of my own book,

that

that I have not had leisure to execute my intention. May I beg that you will either delay this book till the next month, with some general compliment upon it, and that it shall then be considered at large; in which case, I become bound to furnish you with a decent article; or, if such a delay be now improper, let me intreat of you to look at the book, and the article prepared for it, yourself, and to see justice done to the merit of the performance, which, I can assure you, is very great. I hope you will forgive this freedom, which my zeal for a worthy man, and for an ingenious work, has induced me to take. If you delay considering the book till next month, pray write me of it as soon as possible, that I may prepare for you. Do me the justice to believe, that I am, with great esteem, dear Sir, your affectionate and most obedient servant, &c.

Mr Hume to Dr Smollett.

London, July 18, 1767.

DEAR SIR,

I have had a conversation with Lord Shelburne concerning your affairs: he told me, that he had long been pre-engaged for the consulship of Nice to the Spanish ambassador, and could not possibly get free of that obligation. I then mentioned the consulship of Leghorn; but he said he was already engaged for that office to a friend of Mr Dunning the lawyer. On the whole, I cannot flatter you with any hopes of success from that quarter, even supposing his lordship were to remain in office, which is very uncertain, considering the present state of our ministry.—For of all our annual confusions, the present seems to be the most violent, and to threaten the most entire revolution, and the most important events. As Lord Chatham's state of health appears totally desperate, and as Lord Shelburne's connection is supposed to be chiefly, if not solely, with him, many people foretell a short duration to the greatness of the last named minister. Every thing is uncertain: there is a mighty combination to overpower the king. The force of the crown is great, but is not employed with that steadiness which its friends would wish. I pretend not to foresee, much less to foretell, the consequences. I am, dear Sir, your most obedient and most humble servant, &c.

*Mr Hume to Dr Smollett.**

Ragley, September 21, 1768.

MY DEAR SIR,

I did not see your friend, Captain Stobo, till the day before I left Cirencester, and only for a little time; but he seemed to be a man of good sense, and has surely had the most extraordinary adventures in the world. He has promised to call on me when he comes to London, and I shall always see him with pleasure.

But what is this you tell me of your perpetual exile, and of your never returning to this country? I hope that as this idea arose from the bad state of your health, it will vanish on your recovery, which, from your past experience, you may expect from those happier climates to which you are retiring; after which the desire of revisiting your native country will probably return upon you, unless the superior cheapness of foreign countries prove an obstacle, and detain you there. I could wish that means had been fallen on to remove this objection; and that at least it might be equal to you to live any where, except when the consideration of your health gave the preference to one climate above another.—But the indifference of ministers towards literature, which has been long, and indeed almost always, the case in Eng-

* From "the Port-Folio."

England, gives little prospect of any alteration in this particular.

I am sensible of your great partiality, in the good opinion you express towards me; but it gives me no less pleasure than if it were founded on the greatest truth; for I accept it as a pledge of your good-will and friendship. I wish an opportunity of shewing my sense of it may present itself during your absence. I assure you I should embrace it with great alacrity; and you need have no scruple, on every occasion, of having recourse to me. I am, my dear Sir, with great esteem and sincerity, your most obedient and most humble servant, &c.

*Dr Armstrong to Dr Smollett, at Leghorn**.

London, March 28, 1769.

O, my dear Doctor, I should severely reproach myself, for having so long delayed answering your letter, which gave much pleasure and entertainment, not only to me, but to all our common friends, if it was not that I waited for some news that might please you. I have none to send you at last, except you are, as I am, upon the Douglas side; but this is treating you with stale intelligence.

It is needless to say how much I rejoice in your recovery; but I have all along had great confidence in the vigorous stamina with which nature has blest you. I hope you may, within a year or two, be able to weather out, if not an English winter, at least an English summer: meantime, if you won't come to us, I'll come to you; and shall, with the help of small punch, and your company, laugh at the Tuscan dog-days.

I enjoy, with a pleasing sympathy, the agreeable society you find amongst the professors at Pisa. All countries, and all religions, are the same to men of liberal minds; and the most contemptible, sometimes even the most dangerous, of all animals, is an ill-natured blockhead, who affects to despise his neighbours, because he secretly envies their superior abilities, and regards them with a jealous eye.

The daily, industrious, indefatigable operations of the most pernicious lies—the most impudent, audacious doctrines that were ever practised upon a blind, stupid, ignorant, profane populace, still continue to prosper. The London mob have long, every hour of the day, *damn'd their eye-sight*; and they happen to have good reason for it. I will not at once disgust and shock you with the recital of such seditious and treasonable insolencies, as never durst, before Wednesday last, brow-beat a throne—at least never with impunity.—Your friends at Pisa envy our constitution. I am afraid we may, in a short time, be reduced to sigh after theirs; for the view at present, all around us, is an object of the most extreme indignation, contempt, and horror.

Meantime, the infernal spirit of the most absurd discord, Erynnis, blind and blundering in her dotage, has not yet so universally poisoned the *noble* mind of the public, as to engross it entirely to the clumsy, dirty, blackguard amusements and exercises. For history still makes a shift to waddle on, though it grows rather a *lame duck*; and there are still jack-daws enough to swallow the green cheese of tragedy, and the no less insipid curd of *new comedy*. So much the better—all trades should live, they say.

But, talking of some recent publications, puts me in mind of something I had almost forgot to tell you—That several people, who have a particular regard and esteem for the reputed author of the Present State

* From "The Port-Folio." *April* 1807.

State of all Nations, are sorry to find that he has too much exposed the posteriors of our brothers in the north; and made some undeserved compliments to their neighbours in the south, who have already a comfortable enough share of self-conceit; and that, amongst other perfections, he allows them to be the handsomest people in Europe, which they think a very disputable opinion.

All the friends you have mentioned are well, and desire to be kindly remembered to you. Your health is never forgot in our compotations. I am sorry to tell you, that our society has lost one worthy member, in Dr Russell, who died some months ago, of a malignant fever. I beg you'll let me hear from you soon; and am, with my best compliments to Mrs Smollet, at the same time never forgetting Miss ——, and Miss Currie, my dear Sir, your affectionate friend and faithful humble servant, &c.

Dr Armstrong to Dr Smollett.*

No date (London, 1770.)

MY DEAR DOCTOR,

I reproach myself—but it is as insignificant as embarrassing to explain some things. So much for that. As to my confidence in your stamina, I can see no reason to flinch from it; but I wish you would avoid all unwholesome accidents, as much as possible.

I am quite serious about my visit to you next autumn. My scheme is now to pass my June and July at Paris; from thence to set out for Italy, either over the Alps, or by sea from Marseilles. I don't expect the company of any widow-hunter, or any other, that may be too fat and indolent for such an excursion, and hope to pick up some agreeable fellow-traveller, without being at the expence of advertising.

You feel exactly as I do on the subject of state politics. But, from some late glimpses, it is still to be hoped that some *patriots* may be disappointed in their favourite view of involving their country in confusion and destruction. As to the K. Bench patriot, it is hard to say from what motive he published a letter of yours, asking some trifling favour of him, on behalf of somebody, for whom the *cham of literature*, Mr Johnson, had interested himself.

I have, within this month, published what I call my Miscellanies. Though I admitted my operator to an equal share of profit and loss, the publication has been managed in such a manner, as if there had been a combination to suppress it; notwithstanding which, I am told it makes its way tolerably at least. But I have heard to-day that somebody is to give me a good trimming very soon.

All friends here remember you kindly, and our little club at the Two Arms never fail to devote a bumper to you, except when they are in the humour of drinking none but scoundrels. I send my best compliments to Mrs Smollett, and the other ladies, and beg you'll write me as soon as it suits you, and with black ink. I am always, my dear Doctor, most affectionately yours, &c.

* From "The Port-Folio."

Humorous mode of reconciling the HUTTONIAN *and* NEPTUNIAN *Theories.*

To the Editor.

SIR,

HAVING lately heard the opinions of some very learned men on the subject of the formation of the earth, and finding that these opinions were very discordant with one another, yet all of them I observed had been reduced to two distinct theories, which

which were named Huttonian and Wernerian; both of which, in most points, very well accounted for the different phenomena, yet, in a few, both were very defective. And as I also saw that it was fashionable for philosophers to espouse firmly one side, without hearing the arguments of the other, I pestered myself for some time in considering of which of the sides I should become a champion, and therefore set myself to balance their respective merits, when I observed that those phenomena which could with greatest difficulty be accounted for by the one theory, were most easily elucidated by the other, and *vice versa*. A lucky thought struck me, that the two theories could be with great propriety conjoined into one, having this excellent property, namely, of converting all the different disputants to one side of the question, so that their opinions should run in the same channel, and thus account with the greatest facility for all the different facts. This I would do in the following manner: I would begin by supposing that *fire* and *water* were originally, to one another, sworn and inveterate enemies; this you will observe, is an idea not altogether chimerical; we have, even in these latter times, some proofs of their ill will to one another, for we always observe, when there is a meeting betwixt them, that it is accompanied by some strife, and whichever of them has the advantage, gives no quarter, but quickly makes an end of its antagonist. Next, I would proceed to select those arguments on one side of the question, which best explained one part of the facts, and conjoin them with those of the other side that best explained the other part of the facts; at the same time taking care that none of them should be inconsistent with history. Accordingly, I would allow the first position of the Huttonians to be true, namely, that this world was formed out of the wrecks of one preexisting to ours, and its progenitor out of another that went before it; thus allowing it a line of ancestry, even *ad infinitum*. I would allow too, that this was brought about by the water carrying away by degrees and swallowing up all the materials of the old world, and placing them in layers, one above the other, as regular as possible. But this arrangement was quite opposite to that which was consonant with the principle of the fire. About the time therefore, that the old world was created, that is to say, a little before the time of our first progenitor Adam, the fire which had been expelled from the earth by the water, into some skulking place or other, meditating a recovery of its liberty, made its appearance in a very formidable manner, and overcoming the water, forced it to seek shelter under the same circumstances in which itself formerly was. The fire having thus regained the ascendancy, corrected that part of the water's arrangement which was inconsistent with its nature and plan of formation, and thus the two different arrangements were blended together. As I believe history makes mention of no shipping being known before the time of Noah, I conceive that there had been but a little part of the surface of the earth covered with water, not more than was sufficient for the immediate necessities of its inhabitants. I would also draw as an inference from this, that the long life of the antediluvians was owing to the dryness of their atmosphere, and the circumstance of their never being exposed to the diseases arising from wet feet, a thing which I conceive goes a great length in shortening the life of us postdiluvians. I say, after the fire had arranged the different minerals, &c. according to its own fashion, or while it was busily employed

ployed about it, in the time of Noah, the water, by this time, had collected all its exhausted strength, rushed from its places of concealment, overcame its antagonist, reduced the policy and arrangement of the fire to a complete wreck, and has continued to have the upper hand ever since. The fire thus overcome, was consequently forced to seek shelter in its former hiding place, which in all probability is somewhere within this earth of ours, under our feet, where every now and then it gives vent to its rage, threatning the water from the mouth of some volcano or another; and in all probability some day, when the water is off its guard, will take an opportunity of retaliating. This is by no means a new idea, for many people are firmly of opinion, and have not failed to predict, that in reality it will happen in no long time. I therefore believe that these two agents, fire and water, thus alternately getting the ascendancy over one another, correcting and altering the different arrangements of one another, it thus comes to pass that the phenomena of the formation of our earth, that cannot be explained by the Huttonian or fiery system, can with great ease be explained on the principles of the Wernerian or watery system. Thus, Mr Editor, have I given you my ideas briefly on this important subject, leaving them to be commented on and improved by the different philosophers, now idly employed in this dispute; for I hope that this paper will be the means of restoring harmony and unanimity to the philosophic world, and while future ages shall be extolling the benefits resulting from this excellent innovation, I trust it will not be forgotten that it first appeared in the Scots Magazine, and that its fame was trusted to that miscellany by

Edinburgh, 28*th March* 1807. } HYDROPYRUS.

Account of MATTHEW BUCKINGER.

To the Editor.

SIR,

[The Scots Magazine has often been the repository of very curious information, which, perhaps, would otherwise have been lost.

The following hand-bill (which is a *verbatim* copy of the original,) I think curious, as perhaps not two copies of it now exist, and few persons, perhaps, have ever heard of Matthew Buckinger. Were you to insert it in the Magazine, it might be the means of bringing to light farther curious information respecting this extraordinary phenomenon.]

Edinburgh, 13*th April* 1807. } *Alex. Henderson.*

Account of Matthew Buckinger.

"*The Wonder* * *of the World.*"

"THIS is to give notice to all "Noblemen, Gentlemen, Ladies and others,

"That Matthew Buckinger, "(born in Germany, without hands "or thighs,) is come to this city, "and is to be seen at Mrs Mackay's, "at the foot of Blackfriars Wynd, "being but two foot five inches "high; yet performs abundance of "curiosities, far beyond what most "persons (though having their proper limbs,) can pretend unto, "viz:

"He makes his own pens, writes "curiously several hands, as quick, "and as well as any writing master; "draws pictures to the life, and coats "of arms to admiration, with the "pen; threads a needle very quick; "performs several curiosities, and "surprizing conveyances in *Leger-de-main* with admirable dexterity; "plays at skittles or nine pins to a "great nicety; plays upon a strange "Flute, the Dulcimer, Hautboy, "and Trumpet, which was never "known

* In the original between these words there is a wood cut of Buckinger.

" known to be done by any man " besides himself, in all the world ; " charges and fires a gun ; and per- " forms many other curious diver- " sions, to the general satisfaction of " all spectators.

" He waits in the forenoon on " Gentlemen and Ladies at their " houses, if required.

" ☞ *So all that are disposed to see* " *him, let them not lose this opportuni-* " *ty ; for the like little man has not* " *been since the beginning of the world ;* " *and, perhaps, the like may never be* " *again.*

" Beginning every evening exactly " at *Four a Clock*, the first *show* ; " and the second at Six.

" Prices are, Half a Crown the " first seat, and one shilling the " back seat."

" Vivat Rex."

I have seen a plate of Buckinger, round which his different feats were depicted.

Engraver's name, " Elias Beckan; " Heldersmith sculpsit," and finely written with Buckinger's own hand at the bottom,

" Edinburgh, January the 16th 1723, " This was written by Matthew " Buckinger, born without Hands " or Feet in Germany, June the 3d " 1674."

I have also seen a genealogical tree of the family of the Stewarts of Allantown, drawn by him, with the family arms, and the following Latin inscriptions round it:

At the left side.

" Tota licet Veteres exornent undique caeræ
" Atria ; nobilitas sola est atque unica virtus.

At the Top in Capitals.

" ALTIOR procellis, ○ Nil *Michi* Tollit, Hyem.

At the Right Side.

" His me consolor, Victurum suavius ac si
" Questor avus, Pater atque meus patruusque fuissent.

At the Bottom in Capitals.

" Ferris Heret, Cælo Lucet, ○ Fraterna Luce Coruscat.

And below the whole in German Text,

" Edinburgh, May the 10th 1729. " This was Drawn and Written by " Matthew Buckinger, Born with- " out Hands or Feet in Germany, " June 3d 1674." From which it appears that he had resided a considerable time in Edinburgh.

The writing and drawing of the piece were strikingly neat and correct ; the letters remarkably small, and the whole had a pleasing effect.

Celestial Phenomena for May 1807.

Saturday, May 2d.

THE planet JUPITER will be in quadrature with the Sun at 47 minutes after 3 o'clock in the morning.

Friday, May 8th.

MERCURY will arrive at his greatest elongation from the Sun, and may be seen in the morning, before sun-rise. His declination is about 5 degrees, and therefore his amplitude will be more southerly than that of the Sun.

Monday, May 11th.

The planet VENUS will be in conjunction with the star 125 *Tauri*. The shortest distance of their centers will be 60′, and the planet will pass to the south of the star.

Wednesday, May 13th.

VENUS will be in conjunction with the star 132 *Tauri*. The nearest approach of their centers will be 27 minutes, and the planet will pass to the north of the Star.

Tuesday, May 19th.

The planet MARS will be situated in longitude 5ˢ..9°..19′, and latitude 1°..26′ North. His declination is 8°..28′,

8°..28′ North, and he comes to the meridian at 6ʰ..40′ in the evening.

Thursday, May 21st.

The MOON will be eclipsed partially, but being below the horizon, it will not be visible in this country. It commences at 56 minutes after 3 o'clock in the afternoon. The ecliptic conjunction will be at 4ʰ..29′. The middle of the eclipse at 4ʰ..39′, and its conclusion at 5ʰ..22′. The digits eclipsed are 1°..45′ on the Moon's north limb.

Friday, May 22d.

The SUN will enter the sign *Gemini*, at 31 minutes after 1 o'clock in the morning, and his longitude will then be 2 signs.

Saturday, May 23d.

The *fourth* satellite of Jupiter will emerge from behind his shadow, at 9′..20″ after 2 o'clock in the morning. This is the first visible eclipse of Jupiter's satellites since his conjunction with the Sun.

On the same day, at 47 minutes after 2 o'clock in the morning, the *first* and *fourth* satellites of Jupiter will be in conjunction on the western side of his disc. The *third* is on the same side, and the *second* on the other side of Jupiter.

On the same day VENUS will be in conjunction with ᵉ *Geminorum*. The nearest distance of their centers will be 9 minutes, and the planet will pass to the south of the Star.

Monday, May 25th.

The longitude of SATURN is at present 7ˢ..5°..15′, and his latitude 2°..39′ North. His declination is 10°..47′ South, and he souths at 10 o'clock in the evening.

On the same day, the first satellite of Jupiter will immerge into his shadow at 38′..24″ after 2 o'clock in the morning.

Sunday, May 31st.

The planet Jupiter is stationary in longitude 5ˢ..14°..3′.

Edinburgh, 25th April.

Memoirs of the Progress of MANUFACTURES, CHEMISTRY, SCIENCE, *and the* FINE ARTS.

A Very ingenious contrivance for converting the reciprocating motion of a steam engine into a rotatory motion, without the aid of the great beam, has been invented by Mr NASMYTH, well known as the most eminent landscape painter in this country. The contrivance is particularly simple, and is preferable to those where the rotatory motion is produced by cranks, or by the revolution of one circle round the interior circumference of another of twice the diameter.

A new inflammable gas, formed during the distillation of peat, has been discovered by Dr THOMAS THOMSON. He has given it the name of *oxycarbureted hydrogen*. See Nicholson's Journal, vol. XVI. p. 124.

A mode of heating rooms by steam has been invented by Mr NEIL SNODGRASS, Renfrewshire, who has received a reward of 40 guineas from the Society of Arts. The steam is conveyed from the boiler into several vertical pipes which rise thro' the different apartments, and these are connected with small tubes which carry back to the boiler the water that is formed from the partial condensation of the steam. Rooms warmed in this manner are much more salubrious than those which are heated by stoves of the best construction, being perfectly free from contaminated air; and the expence of fuel is scarcely one half of what is necessary to procure the same degree of heat with the best constructed stoves. For farther information the reader is referred to the transactions of the Society of Arts, vol. XXIV. or to the Phil. Magazine, No. CVI. p. 172.

A very useful drag for raising the bodies of persons who have sunk under water, has been invented by Dr COGAN of Bath. The gold medal

was

was adjudged to this invention by the Society of Arts, in whose transactions, or in Nicholson's Journal, an account of the drag will be found.

It appears from the experiments and observations of Mr KNIGHT on the bark of trees, that there is a juice in trees distinct from that which is elaborated by the leaves, or conveyed by the alburnum; that this juice gradually exudes, and, like all vegetable matter, naturally assumes a regular form, which at first resembles a honeycomb, and afterwards unites itself with the alburnum, to form vessels fit to convey the true sap either from the roots to the leaves, or from the leaves to the roots, and in this manner is finally incorporated with the wood of the tree. Mr Knight was led to this conclusion chiefly from having observed that the bark of grafted trees gradually unites and forms an uniform mass, and that bark on the trunks of trees is speedily regenerated where the leaves are perhaps at a distance of nearly 200 feet. These phenomena, he supposes, are incapable of explanation upon the theories of Malpighi and Hales.

During several attempts to construct pendulums not subject to variations arising from a change of temperature, Mr RIGO discovered that of all the modes of compensation that of triangles was the best. He accordingly constructed one of triangles, two sides of which were composed of small steel bars, and the base of brass or zinc which expands two lines more than steel, and hence the expansion of the sides was duly counteracted by the expansion of the base. In this way he alledges that pendulums might be constructed of two, three, or more series of triangles which would continue of the same length throughout all climates and seasons.

Edinburgh, 25th April 1807.

MEMORANDA *in* NATURAL HISTORY.

[This article (with which we are favoured by a gentleman well skilled in these subjects) will notice the progress of vegetation; the appearance and disappearance of migratory animals; the kinds of fish which occasionally appear in the Frith of Forth, &c. The Remarks will be similar to those made in Hampshire, which are inserted in the Monthly Magazine under the title of Naturalist's Report. Those curious in the science may find it interesting to compare observations made at two places so remote from each other. The article, we have ground to hope, will be continued monthly.]

THE past winter has been uncommonly mild and open. On the 14th of December 1806, upon a mud-wall near Ravelston, Veronica arvensis, Alchemilla arvensis, and Thlaspi Bursa-Pastoris were still in bloom; and on Corstorphin hill, Senecio Jacobæa (Ragwort,) Ranunculus repens, and Achillea Millefolium (Yarrow,) still retained their flowers. Throughout January the Whin (furze) was in bloom, with the common Daisy and Groundsel. Very few migratory birds appeared this winter around Edinburgh: the Fieldfares and Redwings were seen only in small flocks, and not in the immediate vicinity of the city, as in snowy winters. A flock of *Snow flakes* or Snow-buntings (Emberiza nivalis) frequented the hills of Arthur's seat and Calton hill, from November till the beginning of March; and some gentlemen who shot several pairs, agreed with me in remarking that they seemed to have fewer white feathers than usual. Several of the Short-eared Owls (Strix brachyotos,) have remained near Edinburgh the whole winter, single birds having been occasionally shot during the past season.

For these halcyon days of mid-

winter,

winter, we have hitherto experienced a very severe and backward spring.

April 9.—The Hawthorn leaf-buds are only beginning to open.—The Gooseberry leaf is not above half expanded. In a large bed of *March Violet* (Sweet Violet, Viola odorata) near Liberton Tower, only one flower yet makes its appearance. This is nearly a whole month later than last year. The leaves were out in February, but have been withered brown by the late sharp frosts. In gardens, a few Daffodils began to blow two or three days ago. The Mezereon bush is not yet fully in bloom; and the Bulbous Fumitory (Fumaria solida) has just come into flower.

April 19.—A great deal of snow and hail has fallen of late, which has been followed by a hard frost. The snow is now lying on Arthur's seat, and the Pentland hills are quite white. Vegetation has made very little progress. The little White-low-grass (Draba verna,) the well known harbinger of spring, is yet to be seen in blow only in sheltered places; and the Saxifraga granulata, which commonly blows by the end of March, has not yet begun to shew its flowers. A Thrush has had young birds in a hedge near town, for four or five days past; but the severity of the frost has now killed the brood. Small flocks of Fieldfares are still seen two or three miles from the city: in mild springs, they have all disappeared before this time.

In the early part of the winter, some Pilchards appeared in the Frith of Forth; and to them succeeded Herrings, but these have been in general meagre and of a small size. The pilchard is less juicy and has less flavour than the herring: to be able to distinguish between these similar fishes in the market, may therefore be useful. The easiest way is to lift them by the back-fin: if the head dip forward, it is a herring; if the fish remain equally balanced, it is a pilchard. From the stomach of a large herring which I procured in the market, and opened 19th February last, I took five young herrings, about two inches long, some partly dissolved by the gastric juice, others entire: they were apparently the young of the common herring, not sprats nor argentines: the herring was a spawner, and was full of ripe roe at the time. Hence these facts appear: That the herring sometimes takes very solid food, although little is generally found in its stomach; that it does not scruple to devour even the fry of its own species; and, contrary to what is stated in some books, that it feeds greedily even about the time of spawning.

In March, great numbers of true Turbot, the *Rowan fleuk* of the fish-women, were brought to market from the Fife side of the Frith. The Holibut, which is here generally named *Turbot*, was also pretty common at the same time.

Since the end of March, vast quantities of small Haddocks have been caught in the mouth of the Frith, between the Bass and the Isle of May. The late strong east wind which prevailed from the 13th to the 15th instant, has brought the shoal a good way farther up the Frith.—*Spirlings* or Smelts (Salmo Eperlanus) have been brought to market in considerable numbers all this month. A specimen of the Prickly Crab, (Cancer horridus,) was lately (2d April) found in a net which had been sunk off Buckhaven for skate and thornback. This is the second instance which I have known of its being taken in the Frith.

Edinburgh.
April 20, 1807. } N.

On

On the Hardships which attend the Character of a SCOTS PREACHER, *and the Means of removing them.*

To the Editor.

SIR,

AS your Miscellany is very extensively read, I have a strong desire of making my appearance in it, in behalf of a respectable class of citizens, who, I am of opinion, are less comfortable than is generally supposed, and whose condition reflects no great honour upon our national character. I mean the condition of those who are candidates for our church, many of whom, after they are licensed to preach the gospel, are too often neglected, and doomed to indigence and obscurity. That among them there are men of the first-rate abilities, both natural and acquired, I hope none will be bold enough to deny; were they sufficiently encouraged, they might, even in their present dependent situation, be eminently useful in society. My object, Mr Editor, therefore is, to throw out some hints through the medium of your useful publication, which may induce some abler hand to take their case into consideration, and to form some rational scheme by which their situation may be rendered more eligible. It is true, I am but a plain, blunt man, and perhaps very unqualified to undertake such an important task; but when the design is good, Mr Editor, you will have the goodness to allow a plain man to say plain things in his own blunt way. I am conscious that my intentions are sincere, and therefore though I should fail in my object, my failure will not be attributed by candid minds to want of integrity of heart.

Believe me, Sir, it is with no small degree of pain, that, in passing along the streets of this Metropolis, I observe many of my old College friends, of whom some have been preachers for upwards of twenty years, who I believe may still have as little prospect of being preferred to a living in the church, as they had even at that distant period. Their thread-bare coats, and brown hats, indicate indubitable proofs of extreme indigence, and I cannot help reflecting what their sensations must have been, during such a long continued *ordeal* of adverse circumstances. *They cannot work, and to beg they are ashamed.* Is it then a matter of surprise, that their looks should be demure, and their countenances dejected; especially when we consider that many now enjoy rich benefices in the church, who cannot boast of higher attainments than theirs, and whose outset in life perhaps promised as little probability of success? Whether this has been owing to the zeal of party or the influence of faction, that some have been thus promoted, and others forced to take their station in the back ground, it is not my province to determine.—The fact is unquestionable, and this is only what I wish to establish. I recollect, that some years ago a gentleman was introduced to my notice, who I was given to understand was at that time attending the university with a view to qualify himself for the church. At first, to be sure, I took no great notice of him, and indeed there was nothing very prepossessing either in his address or appearance.—From my respect, however, for the friend who recommended him, I wished to be discreet to him, and asked him now and then to my house, sometimes when I had a party, and at other times when I had none.—Though at first he seemed somewhat diffident and reserved, by degrees I thought his awkwardness began to wear off, and of course my opinion of him began to change very much in his favour. Upon farther acquaint-

ance, I observed that he was enlightened, intelligent, and very capable of making shrewd remarks upon a variety of subjects. In consequence, therefore, of finding him possessed of a sound head and a good heart, qualities far more amiable than the flippant airs of a conceited coxcomb, or the self-importance of a literary pedant, I felt some degree of curiosity to know some particulars of his history, and of the motives that could induce a man to turn his attention to the church, who is capable of making a figure in many other professions. I no sooner signified my wish of being informed of these particulars, than he cheerfully complied, and gave me such a history of himself as in no small degree surprised me. He told me of the narrowness of his pecuniary circumstances, of the difficulties he had to surmount, and of the grievous disappointments he frequently met with. He said, that at one and the same time he had to provide for himself the means of subsistence, and of defraying the expences of his education; and that of his own voluntary choice he preferred the sacred office to any other profession, as it best suited his ideas of more extensive usefulness in society. I found also, that to this rugged task of preparation for the honourable station he had in view, he applied himself with unwearied diligence and laudable industry, supported by the hope of being one day able to accomplish his object, and by the expectation of being remunerated for all his toil, in procuring a competency of the good things of this life for himself, and in being useful to others in their more important concerns.

At length one step towards the attainment of this laudable object is gained. After having attended eight sessions upon prelections in *alma mater*, and given the closest attention to preparatory study, he is emancipated from academical labours, and carried with him from the seat of learning and of science, ample proofs that he had not laboured there in vain: consequently, after having gone thro' the usual trials, he was put in possession of a privilege, by which he was qualified to accept of a living in the church of Scotland. He now stepped forth into the world in a new character, and on several occasions gave sufficient proofs that his talents were not of an ordinary kind. But notwithstanding all these favourable circumstances, he has continued for some years unnoticed and unobserved among human beings, without any probable hope of being soon provided for, and no doubt but the melancholy prospect that presents itself to his view, embitters his solitary hours; and I confess that when he came to this part of his story, an unusual gloom seemed to settle upon his brow.

After he had finished his tale of woe, I suggested to him the propriety of having engaged with some family of distinction as tutor to their children, before he had completed his studies at the university, as being the only probable way of getting promotion in the church: at the same time, observing, that if a man get a living, he must expect to labour for it, and that favours of this magnitude are not conferred merely because a man is likely to be useful, or because he has a desire of being useful, but because he has been for a number of years an useful, condescending drudge, to my Lord, her Ladyship, and their children. Upon this repartee a forced smile appeared upon my friend's countenance, and he replied with no small degree of keenness. When, said he, I appeared seriously resolved upon directing my views to the church, some learned men were solicited by their friends

to

to do something for me in the way you have just now mentioned; but unhappily these solicitations were productive of no great good: they only occasioned me to make several fruitless calls, though not without the hopes of final perseverance by dint of mere importunity. He farther informed me that he very lately called three several times upon an eminent Doctor of the church, and that he no sooner popped his head in at his gate, than a servant maid, who seemed to be stationed to guard the entrance of the mansion house, bawled out in a tremendous tone of voice,' The Doctor is not at home.' My friend however seems to doubt if this could be the case every time he called, and this circumstance, trifling as it may appear to some, wounded his feelings so much, that, he says, he is determined not to call again, unless under the cloud of night, in order to elude the vigilance of this *Amazonian virago*, or at least to be in possession of the lobby, before she can observe him, and sound the alarm.

Such, Mr Editor, is the situation of the gentleman to whom I allude, and truly a deplorable one it is; but I am however of opinion that it is not a singular one, and that many of his brethren are in similar circumstances. In order to maintain some appearance of gentlemen, they are obliged to dress in a stile becoming their rank, and have seldom the means of procuring it. Consequently they are obliged to trudge about, day after day, and year after year; sometimes soliciting the interest of one man, and at other times that of another, without being able to procure the means of subsistence, not from any want of talent or inclination to do well, but merely from want of being supported and encouraged as they deserve. The condition of such deserving men ought certainly to be meliorated. Reason and common sense powerfully support such an idea, and the more so, when we consider that these are the very men, who, in a few years, are perhaps to preside statedly in our religious assemblies, to conduct our devotions, and by moral and religious instructions to lead us to eternal felicity.—Every man therefore in the community has an interest in their happiness, who has any regard to the welfare of posterity, as on what provision may be made for them, and on what encouragement may be given to men to engage in an office so arduous and important, depends in a great measure the moral and religious character of succeeding generations. It is therefore our duty to enquire what may be the condition and circumstances of those who are candidates for the ministry, whether they have the means of subsistence or not, to make some suitable provision for them according to their respective necessities. The necessity of doing it appears to be great from what has been already stated, and it will more evidently appear, if we only consider that such is the state of society among us, that we commonly measure our regard and our respect for others according to our ideas of the property they possess, whether real or imaginary, and not according to their personal worth; for very few are disposed to give a dinner to any of their acquaintances, unless they expect a similar compliment in return. It will accordingly be found to hold, that neither an extensive acquaintance with the writers of Greece and Rome, deep skill in metaphysics and polite literature, nor profound knowledge in theology, joined to moral excellence, can secure to a man the esteem of the world, unless he possess so much wealth as will enable him to meet the world upon something like an equal footing. That preachers have not the means of doing this is abundantly evident, they do not so much as aspire to it; but it is natural

for

for them to wish to be freed from the alarm of being starved in the midst of opulent citizens. It is unquestionably true, that the livings in our church are so small, and the duty required so laborious, that men who have any property seldom turn their attention to it, as they can, with greater probability of success, engage in more lucrative pursuits; consequently those who direct their views to the church are poor men, who by their own industry are often obliged to procure for themselves the necessaries of life, and what is requisite to defray the expence of their education, even while they are prosecuting their studies: and surely it is highly proper, if, after that period, they are licensed to preach the gospel, that some provision should be made for them, if not otherwise provided for, by which they may have it in their power to support, in some degree, the dignity of the character they have assumed; or if not, why should they be licensed till they are certain of obtaining a presentation to some living? For to have such an order of men among us without employment or friends is surely degrading to our national church, and an infallible method to bring her into contempt; as it is not to be supposed that men will reverence those whom they have seen in abject want, even after their induction into the church, since their former ideas of their indigence cannot be entirely defaced. I have been indeed lately informed, that the Episcopal church of Scotland do not put any person in holy orders unless there is a particular situation to which he is immediately appointed, and that they have not varied from this rule, except in one solitary instance, in sixty years. It is also well known that the different denominations of dissenters in Scotland give immediate employment to their preachers, whenever they are licensed. They are appointed to supply vacant congregations, or other congregations when circumstances require it, and each of them receive, by way of remuneration, from fifteen to twenty shillings per week, and sometimes a deal more, besides the greater part of their living from those among whom they labour. It hence appears, that the preachers connected with the national church are the most miserable of all descriptions of men in holy orders in Scotland, and who could believe it, were it not so evident, that the church of Scotland can be less attentive to the interests of those who are hereafter to support her dignity, than the dissenters are to the same class of men among them? It has been alledged, that when a preacher connected with the church of Scotland performs divine service for any of the clergy, he is hardly asked to eat a bit of dinner; and if he is, that from the manner in which he is received, he must feel his inferiority, if he has any feeling at all, although his livelihood entirely depends on his own exertions in teaching, or in some other laborious employment; and that in many other respects they are otherwise much neglected by those whom they are led to consider as their superiors, or at at least as their superiors in affluence. Of the truth of these allegations I am by no means a competent judge; they may be true, and they may be false, as I attend the levees of the dignitaries of the church very seldom; and as I am less seldom a guest at their banquets, I cannot say what sort of faces may be generally admitted to partake of their *galas*. This inattention towards preachers on the part of the clergy, has been attributed also to that spirit of party which prevails too much among them. Every clergyman wishes to draw over to his own party all the preachers with whom he is acquainted; and those who do not enlist themselves under the banners of a faction are com-

commonly unnoticed and neglected; consequently, the first question with regard to a preacher is, to which side of the church does he belong? Will he be zealous? or is he of such a cast, that he can be moulded to follow a party with tame submission? and very often the report which is made by those who have the meanness to do it, is the criterion for marking a man's real character, I mean that in which he is to be considered in all time coming. If this be a sufficient reason why the clergy should be indifferent to the interests of their younger brethren, it places their character in no favourable point of view: it exhibits them as a non-descript kind of inquisition, by whom men are condemned without evidence, and without the privilege of being heard. This account of the matter does not by any means satisfy my mind; and I cannot persuade myself that men, so enlightened, so respectable, and so liberal as the generality of the members of the church of Scotland are, can be guilty of such baseness, I might say of such criminal conduct. On my own part, however, I cannot help regretting that the politics of the state are so much blended with those of the church, and that the ministerial and opposition benches are as well known in the General Assembly of the church of Scotland as in the British House of Commons; but it ought to be recollected, that men will always act like men, and that perfection is not attainable in the present state. However plausible such reasons as these may appear to some, I confess they do not make a very deep impression upon my mind. I am persuaded that our clergy do what they can to provide families for preachers, through whose influence, after some years service, they may reasonably expect promotion in the church; but, Mr Editor, every preacher cannot get employment in this way, and therefore what is to become of them? It will perhaps be said, that these idlers will get employment in the metropolis in the way of private teaching. I am not disposed to deny but many do get employment in that way; but few or none can succeed well in that department, unless they be patronized by persons of reputation in the literary world, and recommended by them as men of splendid talents. The consequence therefore is, that many of them are in a state of starvation, and by that means they will soon be rendered unfit for intellectual exertions, which will disqualify them for discharging with propriety the duties of the office they have in view, unless some plan be speedily adopted for their relief.—Nothing indeed can be conceived more deplorable, than for a man, after a series of years, during which he has exerted himself to the utmost of his power, not to be able to save a few pounds, to solace his mind in sickness or in old age. We boast of our being a wealthy nation, our national character is famed for benevolence and charity, and we have of late years established several new charitable institutions. We have, by our munificence, reared a princely edifice for unfortunate females, where they are extremely comfortable, in order to promote their amendment, and to render them useful in society. On this object much money has been expended, and it yet remains to be proved what have been its beneficial effects. Without the risk of exposing myself to singularity of opinion, I will venture to say, that it requires no uncommon stretch of mind to conceive that these unfortunate ladies, as they are commonly styled, will not enter this city of refuge till, as the ancient historian says, *ubi aetas tantummodo quæstui modum facerat*; or, as may be said in modern language, till they are no longer able to allure, or to please the votaries of pleasure. Shall we then be so beneficent to the very dregs

of

of the community, while those who deserve our best regard are allowed to languish in obscurity and poverty? How much money have we also squandered away on foreign missions, which might have been applied to more laudable purposes in other respects? Had all the money which has been expended in this way, or perhaps one half of it, been appropriated for such a purpose as I have been here recommending, some relief might have been given by this time to every preacher in Scotland, who is at present out of employ. But the advocates for missions may perhaps say, that much good has been done by their exertions. It may be true, but I am however disposed to call it in question. I believe that the African mission has completely failed, notwithstanding the flattering accounts we have had once and again of its great success. You may be assured, Mr Editor, that I am a very sceptical gentleman with regard to accounts from distant countries upon a variety of topics, and often no less so with regard to religious intelligence, for I have observed that men are frequently imposed upon at home, especially when their minds are warped with enthusiastic zeal for any favourite scheme. To justify my infidelity upon this point, I shall mention only one anecdote out of many which are consistent with my own knowledge. Some years ago, having seen, by accident, a number of the missionary magazine, I happened to light upon a flaming account of a great many conversions that attended the labours of a catechist which was sent out by a certain society in this city. As I was well acquainted with that part of the country in which these wonderful works were said to have been performed, my curiosity was excited to inquire into the particulars of this gentleman's labours the first time I travelled through that district. Accordingly an opportunity occurred, and when passing, I was told that this catechist had commenced preacher with no common share of effrontery, and that this self-taught or self-commissioned preacher was to exhibit in a certain place the Sunday following, You may be sure, Mr Editor, that I was one of the congregation that day, and confessedly I heard an unusual species of eloquence with sovereign contempt; it could not be classed either in the chapter of sense or that of nonsense. I found, however, that from the novelty of such proceedings some attended his harangues from ignorant zeal, others from curiosity, or perhaps from less commendable motives; but I believe none, who possessed any share of common sense, for information upon any doctrinal or preceptive point of religion, for of this kind of knowledge the man had none to communicate, altho' some wags treasured up in their memories some extraordinary morsels of his tropes and figures. Yet his constituents thought him a burning and a shining light, and the accounts remitted to them from time to time was considered by them as equally precious with the writings of the apostles. Mr Editor, I have been long observing men and manners, and we have no reason to suppose but as wrong-headed beings as this poor man may go either to Otaheite or Astracan. Is it therefore reasonable to suppose, that we are in no danger of being imposed upon by tidings from Africa or the South Sea islands, when we are so grossly imposed upon by tidings from a district of the country not a day's journey from the capital, especially when the vanity or the interst of our intelligencers is concerned? But to shew the futility of the missionary scheme is not my present object. My object is, Mr Editor, to call the attention of our citizens to the consideration of the condition of a respectable class of the community. From what I have stated,

ted, I hope, it is evident, that some relief is indispensably necessaary; but I cannot trespass upon your patience any farther; I hope some abler person will avail himself of the hints I have given, and form some scheme for putting this laudable design in execution. I hope you will give this letter therefore a corner of your paper; and wishing abundant success to every beneficent project, believe me to be, with becoming respect,

Mr Editor,

Your most obedient servant,

Simplex.

Edinburgh,
19th *March* 1807.

The laying o' Susie's Ghaist.
A Tale.

ON Friday last, when overhauling a Jew's wallet, in quest of certain vestments, which the fellow solemnly declared were little the worse, a stranger, whose *latter end* plainly demonstrated the nature of his errand, crossed the Alley, and in the broadest Scotch I think I ever heard, thus accosted the Israelite, "Ha'e "ye gat onie breeks i' your bag?" Struck with the oddity of his address, and the well-known dialect of my native country, I looked stedfastly at the man; and, on carefully examining his features, I thought I discerned something like unto the lights and shades of a three-year auld dream, that savour'd much of ancient acquaintance; but when or where the supposed intimacy existed, I could not, for the life of me, recollect. "Neibor," said the stranger—for by this time I had ceased to rummage Nathan's wallet, and fastened mine eyes on Sawney, as if he had been Daniel's ram with seven heads and ten horns,— "Neibor," said he, "ye think ye'll ken me again." Indeed, Sir, said I, both your dress and your address are so very kenspeckle, that it would be no hard matter to single you out fifty years hence. Nevertheless, be not offended, and let not your wrath get the better of your discretion: the seemingly indecent liberty I have just now been taking with your phiz must not be attributed to insolent curiosity, but to a well-grounded supposition that you and I are no strangers to each other, "That may be," replied my good-humoured-countryman, "but foul fa' me gin I can say as meikle wi' a clear conscience,--Whare come ye frae?"—Nathan was got out of all patience with our colloquy—his eyes were fixed on our wants, and his soul was ransacking our pockets. —"Cot plesh us," quoth he, "vat you do dalk yo—hersh van coot preek, ash you callum—hersh vannother, vell vorth a kinish of could—poth are yoursh for zix zeelin."—"Curse on thy rapacity said I, thou long-bearded son of Belial: — has conscience taken the wings of the morning, and flown away from thy uncircumcised heart? is common honesty become a stranger in the habitation of thy soul;—the apparel in question was barely worth eighteen pence." "Vat you do zay," quoth the exasperated Israelite, "Vat you do zay, you tirty tog—Mine preek be much good for yo great impudence: you tell me open mine pag, you tell me then you go and go, and den you do call me pearded Pelial.

The son of Jacob crammed his wallet with cast off-raiment, slung it to his back, and made the best of his way to rag fair, cursing us both for a pair of lowsey pennyless rogues—Courteous reader, rebuke me not for wantonly lacerating the feeling of this unbelieving troggar—Well dost thou know that penury is a poor unfortunate ass, couching between two burthens, and destined to abide stripes and buffettings not a few; but thou also oughtest to be informed, that the hides of some people's children are so confoundedly drench'd and soaked in the

the dirty tan-pits of commerce, that nothing less than a two edged sword will penetrate the almost invulnerable mail, and this observation will hold good, from the vender of periwinkles and lilly-white mussuls, up to the dealer in buckram and Brussel's lace. Even when the very quiver of scurrility is expended, purchasing a woollen nightcap, or a couple of red herrings, solemnly declaring that their merchandize is well worthy the attention of a discerning publick, and that you are fully determined to recommend their commodities to all your kindred and acquaintances; I do positively say, that upon such declaration, all existing feuds and animosities will be erased from the book of remembrance. Had I said unto Nathan, "Let not thine anger burn, nor thy wrath wax hot against thy servant, but accept a peace offering at his hand, even the half of what thou didst ask for the said breeks, and I will bring unto thee all my breekless neighbours who may stand in need of wherewithal to be cloathed,"—he would have begged pardon for his unmannerly rudeness, called me van coot christian, and we should have become like unto David and Jonathan—but I am seldom blessed with so much presence of mind. Saunders and I being now left to our own meditations, a mutual explanation took place. He gave me a hasty sketch of his life, which, poor fellow, savoured not of frankinsence and myrrh; but when he mentioned the place of his nativity, the very spot where all my unadulterated joys and juvenile pastimes were fostered, I could contain myself no longer, every feature in his face became quite familiar, and I instantly recognised one of my most ancient and valuable cronnies. "Gude life, Davie Waugh, said I, "is this you?" "Conscience, quoth David, its nae less a man; but in gude's name wha are ye?" I looked wistfully in his face, and kindly enquired for the unlucky accomplice who used to assist him in bigging up the auld wives' winnocks and lums wi' breckans an' strae, to gaur them trou that mirk Mananday was come back again. He knew me in a moment, and a scene of mutual congratulation took place altogether indescribable. But the open street was not a fit place to unbosom ourselves. We retired to this very garret where I am about to give a faithful account of the sequel, and in a trice were as happy as baps and yill could possibly make us. "I'wa blyther hearts the lee-lang night, ye wadna faund in Christendie." In the course of our conversation, I was given to understand that time had made strange havock amongst my youthful companions. The *laddies* and the *lassies* were giving away their sons and their daughters in marriage. The young men were laying aside their bonnets at weddings and kirsenings, to consecrate the haggies and the sheepshead, and the grown up *maids* were become grandmothers. As for the *auld fowk*, few remained above the turf indeed. He moreover told me that Bauldy Tuncham's curlie-headed Davie, after serving a regular apprenticeship to Patie Doddlewhanger the sow-libber o' Lochmaeban, had commenced Surgeon-apothecary and Man-midwife, and actually excelled in the art of jalap-making, tooth-drawing and blood-letting, insomuch that the very hair of every college taught practitioner in the neighbourhood was standing on end.

hat Sawney Mucklewraith, alias slavering Sawney Sumph, as we used to call him, had lately been warned by the spirit to lay aside his lingle ued lap-stone, and become a gospel expounder;—that he got hold of the Apostle's opinion, "he that marrieth

doeth

doeth well, he that marrieth not, doeth better." laid it upon his canonical anvil, and hammered it into a long-winded palaver in praise of celibacy, and that all the mouldy maids and frost-bitten batchelors in Galloway had joined his standard, fully resolved to banish the image of God from the face of the earth. In short, I was made acquainted with every prominent transaction worthy of notice since my departure from Scotland And how is *Barbara Russel?* said I, worthy woman, dead or alive, I am in duty bound to pray for her welfare. Barbara Russel! quoth David, giving his head a melancholy shake, is amang the mools many years ago. The blood instantly rushed into my face—ungrateful wretch, said I to myself, here hast thou been squandering away the vigour of thy manhood like an ungodly reprobate, in "stringing blethers up in rhyme for fools to sing,"—without so much as once mentioning the name of thy kind benefactress, who, in early life, stored thy mind with so many rural tales and pleasing anecdotes; tales, that in due time will doubtless enrich the stall, the basket, and the pannier of Andrew Bishop, Mrs Armstrong, and Daniel Mackenzie. The worthy auld proverb, "Better late mend than ne'er do weel," presented itself to my recollection, and I immediately resolved to hand the name of Barbara Russel from oblivion, by presenting to the public some of her bonnie tales and queer stories. Davie saw the anxiety of mind under which I laboured, and kindly enquired the cause thereof.—I plainly told him, that the compunctions of conscience were grievously afflicting me on account of my ingratitude to poor Barbara, but that I hoped to obtain a little consolation by giving unto the world some of her "legendary love," which certainly would have a greater tendency to enbalm her memory than any elegy or funeral oration I possibly could manufacture. He highly applauded my scheme, and gladly volunteered his services in assisting me, having derived equal benefit with myself from Barbara's legendary loquacity. We immediately set our brains to work, and after critically examining the whole catalogue, were humbly of opinion that "The laying o' Susie's ghaist" was by far the best in Barbara's collection: but, alas, on taking down the unfortunate tale from the skelf of recollection, nothing but scraps, and tatters, and broken fragments, presented themselves; not a single verse remained harmless and skaithless. The truth is simply this—time had so gnawed and worried the story, that little more than the bare bones could be collected.—Devil take it, said I, what a misfortune; but no matter, the tale cannot, must not be lost though like unto an auld plaid three part eaten by the mice and the moths, we'll e'en darn up the holes with good substantial prose, and so let it pass. Gentle reader,—tax me not with wishing to impose a child of my own begetting upon a generous, a discerning public, for the legitimate offspring of honest Barbara: believe me, Sir, I have lived too long in this vain world not to know, that falsehood uniformly becomes his own executioner: deceit is like unto a Bond street lounger arrayed in the garments of Rag fair, who hies him away to the Coffee house, calls for his wine, and sits down upon a *heckle*. When aping the gentleman, he detects my Lord Gaisling's eye in the very act of recognising the old surtout which his Lordship's valet sold to a Jew for half a crown, and in his heart he curses Squire Saphin for contemplating the furbished physiognomy of his grandfather's plush breeches, thus the poor devil is eternally racked upon the tenter hooks of suspicion. But honest truth, conscious that the character

ter he assumes is his own, and that the raiment he wears is the produce of his father's sheep-bughts, and his thrifty mither's spinning wheel, composedly takes his seat among the elders of the land, or marches alang the plain stanes, turning out the burnt side of his skin like a Dinscore laird on Rood-fair day. Having thus lopped off every twig and bough at the which even perishing suspicion could possibly grasp, I shall do myself the honour of laying before your worship one of Barbara Russell's favourite tales. It is written in a sort of a humdrum blank kind of verse, or rather barbarously versify'd prose, and as I before hinted, miserably rent and tatter'd; but as I humbly propose to stitch the remnants together with prose yarn, it is to be hoped that the general tone of the story will lose nothing of its primitive twang. Our bard, after solemnly invoking his beloved mistress, Jenny M'Whilter, as was customary in the ages of Chivalry (for I must here remark, "that the laying o' Susie's ghaist" is certainly a tale of great antiquity,) proceeds as follows, viz.

——————Good people all,
Baith lairds an' souters, lend an apen lug.
Down wi' your seams, ye souple-gabbit taylors,
Lang-wundit cheftains o' the clashin' clan,
An' blank na wi' your goose. Ye clashin' wives,
Around the ingle draw in oure your creepies,
An' steik your luntin' cutties i' your gabs,
An' beek your shins, while I, wi' cannie skill,
Sing o' a ghaist, the verra wale o' ghaists,
That e'er in house or hauddin faund a howff.
—Lang syne whan lair, that bogle-scaurin' loon
Was but a bairn, an' hadna' coost his hippen,
Nor wi' his patent specks bestrade the snout,
O' haly priest, or waddlin' domonie;
Whan yelling deils in ilka dowie heugh,
At gloamin claw'd their een, an' sallying forth,
Flappit their sooty wings an' flew awa'
To fley our graunies—waifa' times indeed,

The poet then regales us with a long palaver in praise of rural superstition; but as such a mess of doggerel balderdash would ill suit the palate of modern philosophy, I shall e'en make it a pass over.—His bardship then begins the story.

In thae auld times, yeclep'd the days o' yore,
Nae matter whan or where, dwalt Andrew Waddle,
Snug in a cozie biggin, snodly theiket
Wi' strae an' divets. Elspa Howe, his mither,
Cloutit the sarks, an' darn'd the hose and stockins,
An' brew'd the maut, an' beuk the scons an' bannocks:
A thriftier lucky ne'er essay'd to mak',
A bawbee o' her boddle. Bught an' byre,
Like breckans, thrave beneith the sonsie e'e
O' Susie Duff, whase braed substantial back
Right weel did bruik a lade o' bottl'd strae,
Or umphquill gimmer smoor'd amang the snaw,
Or stately midden creel—but waes my heart,
Twa score o' gimmers had gane glibly bye,
Sin' Tibby Twaddle "Hey my kitten," sang
To her wee Susie--What was warst o' a',
The chiel's grown scant o' mense, an', fy for shame,
Had nowther ca'd her hinny, dow, nor dawty,
But late and a'er ay threipit she wad die
The warst o' deaths—I darna gie't a name.

London, 1807. *T. M. C.*

(To be continued.)

Letter

Letter from General MACARTNEY, *giving an account of the death of the Duke of Hamilton.*

To the Editor.

SIR,

HAVING read in the Scots Magazine published by you for February last "An account of the "*assassination*," (as it is very unjustly termed) "of the Duke of Hamilton in 1712," prefaced with an observation, that it is "the *only* particular account" of that memorable event, I am induced to offer you another statement of it, (the correctness of which may be depended upon) in the inclosed copy of a letter written at the time by General Macartney to his friend Colonel Gardiner, the insertion of which will, I have no doubt, be acceptable to the readers of your valuable magazine, and to which, I flatter myself you will have no objection.

J.A.

Leith, March 20th 1807.

The General begins with stating, that in the evening of Thursday the 13th of November, Lord Mohun called at his lodgings in great agitation, and gave an account of what had passed in Chancery; adding, that it was said "with such an air and manner as if he had produced corrupt evidence." He therefore desires Lord Mohun to go to the Duke, and to tell him, in the civilest manner you can, that though I have had reason to complain of his Grace's bad usage of my counsel and evidence several times before now, yet I would not make theirs any concern of mine; and though the severe reflections he made this evening seem'd to be directly levell'd at myself, yet I leave them to his Grace's own explanation; and if I am out of the question, then I only wish, that for the future we may meet on better terms, and leaving the scolding to the lawyers, or both by consent absent ourselves from their meetings: but if his Grace have any particular prejudice to my person or manners, he may find other opportunities of telling me his mind, and I shall be always ready to attend him.

Macartney states, that he did every thing in his power to pacify Lord Mohun, and dissuade him from sending this message; but upon his Lordship's insisting, he agreed to go. He called several times at the Duke's lodgings, but having missed him, gave over thoughts of the business, when he learned that one of his Grace's gentlemen had been inquiring for him; in consequence of which, he went, and found him at home. We shall give the rest in his own words.

His Grace received me with a great deal of civility, and after a small preamble I told him that I hoped I was employed to do good offices betwixt his Grace and my Lord Mohun; and that I flattered myself he would find nothing offensive in my message.

And pray, Sir, says my Lord Duke, what are my Lord Mohun's commands for me? with that I told his Grace what my Lord Mohun had desired me, and as near as I could remember, in his very words.

My Lord Duke was walking while I spoke and then standing still said: Sir, my Lord Mohun was very far in the wrong to me last night, and I went early abroad this morning on purpose to send a Gentleman to tell him so; but missing of the friend I looked for, and hearing that you had been twice at my door, I guess'd, by your intimacy with my Lord Mohun, that you might probably come from him, else he should have heard from me before now: and impatient to know the certainty, I sent my secretary Gawin Mason to your

your lodgings, and up and down the town to seek for you: and now, Sir, be pleased to tell my Lord Mohun, I will meet him when and where he pleases. I desire you to bring me word back again of the time and place, for no man breathing is readier.

My Lord, said I, I have no authority to treat of time or place, because I did not think it would become necessary, hoping your Grace would give my message another turn; and indeed, my Lord, unless something more has past between you two than I yet know of, I think this affair might be very easily accommodated; but as this offer does not come directly from my Lord Mohun, I hope your Grace will not think me impertinent in talking more than I am commissioned.

Come, come, Mr Macartney, says my Lord Duke, I know these matters very well, and I know what I am to do, both with my lawyers and others; whatever comes of this, shall break no squares between you and me; so pray bring me back Lord Mohun's answer.

My Lord, said I, I don't know he will send any answer; for if I understood, and expressed his meaning right, he desired chiefly to know your Grace's meaning as to what related to himself, and I hope your Grace will think more calmly of it.

Well, Sir, said my Lord Duke, will you then meet me an hour hence at the Rose Tavern in Covent Garden. I'll bring a friend with me, and we'll discourse on't.

I will wait on your Grace, said I, and if I can prevail upon my Lord Mohun he shall not be far off, provided you can be brought to speaking terms. So taking leave of his Grace he conducted me to the outermost door.

I found out Lord Mohun, and unwilling to exasperate, I told him but a part of Duke Hamilton's discourse, and begged his full power, that in case with the Duke and his friend, I should find some honourable way of reconciling them, I might answer for his compliance. To which my Lord Mohun consenting, we went together to the Rose Tavern; and, to prevent the Lords meeting by surprize, I directed the waiter, that if my Lord Duke Hamilton should come there to enquire for me, he should shew his Grace into another room, and call me to him.

Both which happening in a quarter of an hour after, I went into his Grace's room, and was surprised to find him alone, and his whole dress chang'd, from a long wig and velvet cloaths, I had left him in, to a riding wig and stuff coat, without either star or ribbon, only a St Andrews cross on an old white cloak.

You see, Sir, said my Lord Duke smiling, that I am come in cavaliers. I see it, indeed, my Lord, said I, but hope 'tis upon some other gallant occasion, no way relating to our last discourse. His Grace reply'd, No, faith, 'tis for the business you know of, for *je suis prest a tout*.

My Lord, said I, I am come here by your Grace's commands, not without hopes that, by discoursing with your Grace and your friend, things might be better understood, and perhaps settled to both your satisfactions.

My friend is here, said my Lord Duke; and going to the door, called very loud, Jack, come in.

Immediately enters Colonel Hamilton, in a red coat with gold buttons: and the Duke presenting him to me said Sir, here is the gentleman who is to entertain you. Then turning to Colonel Hamilton, says, Do you hear, Jack? Lord Mohun and I have an affair to decide, which no man is to know of but yourself and Mr Macartney.

With all my heart, says Colonel Hamilton; Mr Macartney and I know one another very well.

I never hearing of Colonel Hamilton's being in England, asked him if he was just arrived from Scotland; and he said, No; he came last from Dunkirk.

There being wine on the table, I drank to him, Duke Hamilton's health; he pledged it and his Grace drank to me; on which I filled another glass, and said, My Lord, let me drink to a happy conclusion of this affair.

With all my heart, said the Duke; and now a-propos to that, we have no more ado but to settle the time and place: that's all I come for here, and I think by seven o'clock in Hyde-park will be the most convenient.

My Lord, said I, 'tis not light by seven; and besides I have not yet consulted my Lord Mohun on that point, for I came here on another view, which by the present disposition must I find be now laid aside.

Well, well, says my Lord Duke, it is all a case; since you know the time, I'll expect my Lord Mohun there before eight o'clock; we cannot mistake now, and so I am your humble servant.

Which taking as a hint that he desired my company no longer, I left his Grace and Colonel Hamilton together.

I must here observe to you, that till this Colonel Hamilton came into the room, I had not lost hopes of an accommodation; but the Duke presenting to me, for an antagonist, a gentleman, who had a long prejudice to me, for being made Major over his head in the Scotch guards, besides a later difference which happened in Scotland at the raising of my regiment there, this unhappy rencounter made me incapable of farther proposals. So going back to my Lord Mohun, and being under an indispensible necessity of hiding nothing from him, I told his Lordship all that had pass'd.

My Lord Mohun immediately said,—Macartney, I have all day long thought you overwise in managing in this affair, and knew my own mind, that it must come to this at last; now I conjure you to secrecy, and that in order to it we may lie together at the bagnio.

Whence going in a coach on Saturday morning, my Lord Mohun said to me, Notwithstanding any former difference between you and t'other gentleman, you must be ruled by me at this time, and have nothing to do in this present affair.

My Lord, said I, I am not to prefer my own concerns to your desires; it may perhaps be of service to you both, and I'll obey you; but upon this condition, that if this be not either proposed or readily agreed to by t'other side, you will not insist.

Well, said Lord Mohun, if Duke Hamilton do not propose it, I will, and you have promised to comply.

Coming near the lodge in the park, we sent to bespeak a breakfast, and chose to walk, it being very cold, and soon after we espy'd Duke Hamilton and the Colonel following of us. My Lord Duke made some compliment, and threw off his cloak.

My Lord Mohun bowing to him, said, I must ask your Grace one favour, which is, that these gentlemen may have nothing to do in our quarrel; I have prevailed with my friend, and I hope your Grace will with yours.

To which the Duke answered, My Lord, I leave them to themselves.

Immediately both Lords drew, and I can give little account of their action, being at the same instant engaged with Colonel Hamilton, with whom, after some parrying, I closed in, and getting his sword from him with my left hand, he caught hold of mine with his right hand, just below the hilt. Sir, said I, struggle not, for I have your sword: Sir, said he, I have a grip of yours. Quit it then, said I, and don't force me to run you

in the back, but let's haste to save them.

I saw the Lords then struggle and fall together, their ground being much changed in the action; for at the beginning my Lord Mohun was on my left hand, and they now fell, almost behind Colonel Hamilton.

While I was yet uttering the words I mentioned last to Colonel Hamilton, the keepers came up and found us two in this posture, standing upon our legs close struggling, his sword in my left hand, free over his right shoulder, and my sword in my right hand, he pulling at the blade with both his.

One of these keepers took our two swords; and I think another ran at the same instant to the Lords, crying out, What a deal of mischief is done here, would to God we had come sooner; you gentlemen are such strange creatures.

As we stept to the Lords, as I think not above four yards from us, Lord Mohun was not altogether on his back, but in a manner between lying and sitting, bending forwards to Duke Hamilton, of whose sword he laid a hold with his left hand. Duke Hamilton was on his knees, leaning to his left, almost across Lord Mohun, and holding Lord Mohun's sword also fast with his left hand, both striving, but neither able to disengage himself from t'other.

One of the keepers, with Colonel Hamilton, first lifted the Duke; while, with another, I endeavoured the same service to my Lord Mohun, who immediately said to me, I believe I am killed, for I feel several wounds in my belly. Good God forbid, said I, and turning him off his wounded side and belly, strove in vain to give him relief.

I saw the Duke, supported by the Colonel and another, walk some yards, but staggering, which I imputed to a great gash I saw in his leg, which I thought had cut the sinews.

I continued my care about my Lord Mohun till hopes were past, and then sent his body home in the same coach that brought us.

After this melancholy parting, I walked by way of Kensington to your lodgings, where I heard the first news of Duke Hamilton's being a dying.

Though you must needs think me tedious in this relation, I must yet appeal to your own knowledge, of my words and expressions, both as to Duke Hamilton and his friend: you can testify to the world how little my behaviour as to them looked like the previous villanous aspersions I am told of; and which I yet conclude to be only raised, believed, and spread about, by such as are capable of those unnatural barbarities that can never be imputed to,

SIR.

Your most obliged friend and servant,

MACARTNEY.

Ostend, Dec. 4.—15. 1712.

View of Manners and State of Society in IRELAND.

Continued from p. 186.

IT has been asserted by Dr Campbell, who wrote in 1777, that the Irish recruits were in general short, owing to the poverty of their food: if this assertion were correct, and few tourists appear to have been more accurate, they are much altered since that Gentleman wrote; for most of the Irish militia regiments which I saw exhibited very fine looking men, frequently exceeding the ordinary stature.

The lower order will occasionally lie, and so will the lower orders of any other country, unless they are instructed better: and so should we all, had we not been corrected in our childhood for doing it. It has been as-

asserted, that the low Irish are addicted to pilfering; I met with no instance of it personally. An intelligent friend of mine, one of the largest linen manufacturers in the north of Ireland, in whose house there is seldom less than twelve or fifteen hundred pounds in cash, surrounded with two or three hundred poor peasants, retires at night to his bed without bolting a door, or fastening a window. During lady Cathcart's imprisonment in her own house in Ireland, for twenty years, by the orders of her husband, (an affair which made a great noise some years since) her ladyship wished to remove some remarkably fine and valuable diamonds, which she had concealed from her husband, out of the house, but having no friend or servant whom she could trust, she spoke to a miserable beggar-woman, who used to come to the house, from the window of the room in which she was confined.

The woman promised to take care of the jewels, and lady Cathcart accordingly threw the parcel containing them to her out of the window: the poor mendicant conveyed them to the person to whom they were addressed; and when lady Cathcart recovered her liberty, some years afterwards, her diamonds were safely restored to her. I was well informed, that a disposition to inebriation amongst the peasantry had rather subsided, and has principally confined itself to Dublin.

The instruction of the common people is in the lowest state of degradation. In the summer, a wretched uncharactered itinerant derives a scanty and precarious existence, by wandering from parish to parish, and opening a school in some ditch covered with heath and furze, to which the inhabitants send their children to be instructed by the miserable being, who is nearly as ignorant as themselves; and in the winter these pedagogue pedlars go from door to door, offering their services, and pick up just sufficient to prevent themselves from perishing by famine. What proportion of morals and learning can flow from such a source into the mind of the ragged young pupil, can easily be imagined, but cannot be reflected upon without serious concern.

A gentleman of undoubted veracity stated, not long since, before the Dublin Association for distributing Bibles and Testaments amongst the poor, that whole parishes were without a Bible. Their native urbanity to each other is very pleasing: I have frequently seen two boors take off their hats and salute each other with great civility. The expressions of these fellows upon meeting one another are full of cordiality. One of them, in Dublin, met a boy after his own heart, who, in the sincerity of his soul, exclaimed, "Paddy! myself's glad to see you, for in troth I wish you well." "By my shoul, I knows it well," said the other, "but you have but the half of it;" that is, the pleasure is divided. If you ask a common fellow in the streets of Dublin which is the way to a place, he will take off his hat, and if he does not know it, he will take care not to tell you so (for nothing is more painful to an Irishman than to be thought ignorant,) he will either direct you by an appeal to his imagination, which is ever ready, or he will say, "I shall find it out for your honour immediately;" and away he flies into some shop for information, which he is happy to be the bearer of, without hope of any reward.

Their hospitality, when their circumstances are not too wretched to display it, is remarkably great.—The neighbour, or the stranger, finds every man's door open, and to walk in without ceremony at meal-time, and to partake of his bowl of potatoes, is always sure to give pleasure

to every one of the house, and the pig is turned out to make room for the gentleman. If the visitor can relate a lively tale, or play upon any instrument, all the family is in smiles, and the young will begin a merry dance, whilst the old will smoke after one another out of the same pipe, and entertain each other with stories.

A gentleman of an erratic turn was pointed out to me, who, with his flute in his hand, a clean pair of stockings, and a shirt in his pocket, wandered through the country every summer; whenever he stopped, the face of a stranger made him welcome, and the sight of his instrument doubly so; the best seat if they had any, the best potatoes and new milk were allotted for his dinner; and clean straw, and sometimes a pair of sheets, formed his bed, which, although frequently not a bed of roses, was always rendered welcome by fatigue, and the peculiar bias of his mind.

The peasantry are uncommonly attached to their ancient melodies, some of which are exquisitely beautiful.

In some parts of Ireland the harp is yet in use, but the Irish bagpipe is the favourite instrument.

The stock of national music has not been much increased of late years.

The Irish of all classes are fond of music.

In Ireland the grim tyrant is noticed with eccentric honours. Upon the death of an Irishman, or woman, the straw upon which the deceased reposed is burned before the cabin door, and as the flames arise, the family set up the death-howl. At night, the body, with the face exposed, and the rest covered with a white sheet, placed upon some boards, or an unhinged door supported by stools, is watched; when all the relatives, friends, and neighbours of the deceased, assemble together; candles and candlesticks, borrowed from the neighbourhood, are stuck round the deceased: according to the circumstances of the family, the company is regaled with whiskey, ale, cake, pipes and tobacco. A sprightly tourist, whose name does not appear to his book, observes, that, "Walking out one morning rather early, I heard dreadful groans and shrieks in a house. Attracted by curiosity, I entered, and saw in a room about fifty women weeping over a poor old man, who died a couple of days before.

"Four of them in particular made more noise than the rest, tore their hair, and often embraced the deceased.

"I remarked that in about a quarter of an hour they were tired, went into another room, and were replaced by four others, who continued their shrieks until the others were recovered; these, after swallowing a large glass of whisky, to enable them to make more noise, resumed their places, and the other went to refresh themselves."

The common people also believe in fairies. In the last century, every great family in Ireland had a banshee, a fairy, in the shape of a little frightful old woman, who used to warble a melancholy ditty under the windows of great houses, to warn the family that some of them were about to die: these agreeable supernatural visitors have not been seen for some time. They also believe that the ancient forts and mounts are sacred to a little fairy race, and therefore would not, for any consideration, touch them with a spade. In several parts of Ireland are elf stones; these are triangular flints, with which the peasantry suppose the fairies, when angry with them, destroy their cows. When these animals die unexpectedly of a natural disease, they say they are elf-shot. The rustic requires a great deal of encouragement before he can be brought to level an ant-hill, from a belief that it is a fairy mount.

The

The common Irish marry very young, and hence there are very few spurious children in that country, and infanticide is scarcely ever heard of.

The native pride of the low Irish is ill directed by ignorance, but the frequent source of many of their better qualities. Although there are many beggars in Dublin, and in other towns; yet to be reduced to beggary is thought so odious, that no one would set up for a beggar, more than he would for a prophet, in his own country. No one, however pinched, could ask for alms in his own neighbourhood. An intelligent friend of mine told me, that a miserable creature, who went by the name of Doctor Donolley, although in a state of abject penury, would never accept of a bit of pork, a potatoe, or a drink of milk, if offered to him, but preferred eating offal from a dunghill, to the idea of being supported as an object of charity in the place of his nativity. After a fast of three days, he has been known to refuse proffered victuals. This man one day went with a letter twenty seven miles for a gentleman, to his daughter at a boarding school: arriving early in the morning, the servant girl upon opening the door, after a loud consequential double rap, was much surprised, to see this wretch in rags, and, without asking him any questions, she said, "Go along, we have nothing for you." The doctor immediately returned home without delivering the letter, making a distance of fifty four Irish miles, without having broken his fast. There have been instances of gentlemen opening gratuitous schools upon their estates, and from ignorance of the character of their own countrymen, they have been surprised to find that frequently the poor people would not send their children; they forgot that native pride which revolts at eleemosynary aid. In such an instance as this, if the independent spirit of the parent had been flattered by calling for the payment of only a tester at the end of the year, towards the discharge of some of the expences incident to the establishment, the child would not have been withheld from it. The attachment of the low Irish to their children is very great. To play with her child is the highest delight of the mother; and, for this indulgence, she will, by an injudicious, but natural miscalculation of maternal duty, omit the care of herself and her house: nor is the piety of their affection to their parents less distinguishable.

Ireland is not cursed with English poor-laws; there are no pauper houses there, into which a child, in the full vigour of life and health, can cast the hoary-headed infirm author of his days, as he would a loathsome incumbrance, to languish out the poor remains of life under the neglect or barbarity of a parochial officer, deserted by the being to whom he has imparted existence, and cut off from all the soothing endearments of filial gratitude. It is a rare sight to see, in Ireland, an aged parent begging for bread.

With few materials for ingenuity to work with, the peasantry of Ireland are most ingenious, and with adequate inducements laboriously indefatigable: they possess, in general, personal beauty and vigour of frame; they abound with wit and sensibility, although all the avenues to useful knowledge are closed against them: they are capable to forgive injuries, and are generous even to their oppressors: they are sensible of superior merit, and submissive to it: they display natural urbanity in rags and penury; are cordially hospitable, ardent for information, social in their habits, kind in their disposition, in gaiety of heart and genuine humour unrivalled, even in their superstition pre-

presenting an union of pleasantry and tenderness; they are warm and constant in their attachments, faithful and incorruptible in their engagements; innocent, with the power of sensual enjoyment perpetually within their reach; observant of sexual modesty, though crowded in the narrow limits of a cabin; strangers to a crime which reddens the cheek of manhood with horror; tenacious of respect, acutely sensible of, and easily won by kindnesses. Such is the peasantry of Ireland, I appeal not to the affections or the humanity, but to the justice of every one to whom chance may direct these pages, whether men so constituted present no character which a wise government can mould to the great purpose of augmenting the prosperity of the country, and the happiness of society.

Geographical description of COCHINCHINA.

THE extensive empire of China terminates, on the south at the twenty-second degree of latitude: but a tongue of land connected with it continues on its western side as far as to the ninth parallel of northern latitude. This prolongation of 13 degrees in extent has a ridge of high mountains, which running down the middle from north to south, divides the Birman empire, on the west, from the kingdoms of *Tungquin*, *Cochinchina*, *Tsionka*, *and Cambodia*, on the east. Those names, thus usually marked on our charts, are however utterly unknown to the natives, except *Tungquin*. The other three collectively are called *Annan*, and are distinguished by three grand divisions. The first, contained between the southermost point, which forms the extremity of the gulph of Siam, and which lies in about the ninth degree of latitude as far as to the twelfth degree, is called *Don-nai*; the second, extending from thence to the fifteenth degree, *Chang*; and the third, between this and the fifteenth degree, where the kingdom of *Tungquin* commences, is called *Hue'*. On the sea coast of all these divisions, are safe and commodious bays and harbours. The great river of *Don-nai* (Cambodia on the charts) is described as navigable by ships of the largest size, to the distance of 40 miles up the country, where the city of *Sai-gong* is situated, having a capacious and commodious port, and an extensive naval arsenal. An English gentleman, who sailed up this river in a large Portugese vessel, on his passage from China to India, represented it to me as one of the grandest scenes that could be imagined. It has several large branches, but the width of that up which they sailed, seldom exceeded two miles, and in many places was less than one; but the water was so deep in every part that the rigging of their vessel was sometimes entangled in the branches of the stately forest trees which shaded its banks, and her sides frequently grazed against the verdant shores.

In the division of *Chang*, in latitude 13° 50′ N., is *Chinchen* bay and harbour; the latter spacious and completely sheltered from all winds, but only accessible by large vessels at high water on account of a bar that runs across the narrow entrance or gullet between it and the outer bay. At the head of this harbour is situated the city of *Quinnong*.

The principal city in the division of *Hue'*, which bears the same name, is situated on the banks of a large river, navigable by ships of considerable burden; but a bar of sand runs across the mouth. A little to the southward of this river is the bay of *Hansan*, or, as it is usually marked in the maps, *Turon*, which, for the security and conveniencies it affords, is equalled by few in the Eastern world,

world, and certainly surpassed by none. It is situated in lat. 16° 7′ N.

Character of its present Sovereign.

Caungshung is represented to be, in the strictest sense of the word, a complete soldier. He is said to hold the name of General far more dear and estimable than that of Sovereign. He is described as being brave without rashness, and fertile in expedients when difficulties are to be surmounted. His conceptions are generally just: his conduct firm; he is neither discouraged by difficulties, nor turned aside by obstacles. Cautious in deciding; when once resolved, he is prompt and vigorous to execute. In battle he is always eminently distinguishable. At the head of his army he is chearful and good humoured: polite and attentive to all the officers under his command, he studiously avoids to mark out any individual as a favourite beyond the rest. His memory is so correct, that he is said to know by name the greater part of his army. He takes uncommon pleasure in conversing with his soldiers, and in talking over their adventures and exploits; he makes particular inquiries after their wives and children; if the latter go regularly to school, how they mean to dispose of them when grown up, and, in short enters with a degree of interest into a minute detail of their domestic concerns.

His conduct to foreigners is affable and condescending. To the French officers in his service he pays the most marked attention, and treats them with the greatest politeness, familiarity, and good humour. On all his hunting excursions and other parties of pleasure, one of these officers is always invited to attend. He openly declares his great veneration for the doctrines of Christianity, and tolerates this religion, and indeed all others, in his dominions. He observes a most scrupulous regard to the maxims of filial piety, as laid down in the works of Confucius, and humbles himself in the presence of his mother (who is still living) as a child before its master. With the works of the most eminent Chinese authors he is well acquainted; and thro' the translations into the Chinese character of the Encyclopædia, by the bishop Adran, he has acquired no inconsiderable knowledge of European arts and sciences, among which he is most attached to such as relate to navigation and ship-building. It is stated, on what appears to be good authority, that, in order to obtain a thorough knowledge of the practice, as well as theory of European naval architecture, he purchased a Portuguese vessel, for the sole purpose of taking it in pieces, plank by plank, with his own hands, fitting in a new piece of similar shape and dimensions as the old one he removed, till every beam, timber, knee, and plank, had been replaced by new ones of his own construction, and the ship thus completely renovated.

The energy of his mind is not less vigorous than the activity of his corporeal faculties. He is represented in fact, as the main spring of every movement that takes place in his extensive and flourishing kingdom. Intendant of the ports and arsenals, master shipwright of the dockyard, and chief engineer of all the works, nothing is attempted to be undertaken without his advice and instructions. In the former, not a nail is driven without first consulting him; nor a gun mounted on the battery but by his orders. He not only enters into the most minute detail in drawing up instructions, but actually sees them executed himself.

To enable him the better to attend to the concerns of his government, his mode of life is regulated by a fixed plan. At six in the morning he rises from his couch, and goes into the cold bath. At seven, he has his levee of Mandarins: all

the letters are read which have been received in the course of the preceding day, on which his orders are minuted by the respective secretaries. He then proceeds to the naval arsenal, examines the works that have been performed in his absence, rows in his barge round the harbour, inspecting his ships of war. He pays particular attention to the ordnance department; and in the foundery which is erected within the arsenal, cannon are cast of all dimensions.

About twelve or one he takes his breakfast in the dockyard, which consists of a little boiled rice and dried fish. At two he retires to his apartment, and sleeps till five, when he again rises; gives audience to the naval and military officers, the heads of tribunals or public departments, and approves, rejects, or amends whatever they may have to propose. These affairs of state generally employ his attention till midnight, after which he retires to his private apartments, to make such notes and memorandums as the occurrences of the day may have suggested. He then takes a light supper, passes an hour with his family, and between two and three in the morning retires to bed; taking in this manner, at two intervals, about six hours of rest in the four and twenty.

He neither makes use of Chinese wine, nor any kind of spirituous liquors, and contents himself with a very small portion of animal food. A little fish, rice, vegetables, and fruit, with tea and light pastry, constitute the chief articles of his diet. Like a true Chinese, descended, as he boasts to be, from the imperial family of Ming, he always eats alone, not permitting either his wife or any part of his family to sit down to the same table with him. On the same principle of pride, he would not allow some English gentlemen to pay their respects to him at his palace, in the year 1799 because, as he observed, the unsettled state of the country did not permit him to make such preparations as were due to himself and to strangers of respectability. The meaning of such an excuse coming from a Chinese, could not be well mistaken; but on the part of this monarch, there did not appear to be any thing like jealousy, or a wish to deprive the strangers of the means of gratifying their curiosity: on the contrary, they had full liberty to visit every part of the naval arsenal, and to inspect the town and its fortifications. He had no objection to entertain them as a General, but refused to see them in his character of Sovereign.

His stature is represented to be somewhat above the middle size; his features regular and agreeable; his complexion ruddy, very much sunburnt by a constant exposure to the weather. He is at this time (1806) just on the verge of fifty years of age.

Military and Naval Strength of the Kingdom.

The strength of the forces of the King of Cochinchina was, in the year 1800, as follows:

Army.	*Men.*
24 squadrons of Buffalo cavalry,	6,000
16 battalions of elephants (200 beasts,)	8,000
30 battalions of artillery,	15,000
25 regiments of 1200 each, trained in the European manner,	30,000
Infantry, with matchlocks, sabres, and trained in the ancient manner,	42,000
Guards regularly trained in European tactics,	12,000
Land forces,	113,000

Marine

Marine.	*Men.*
Artificers in the naval arsenal . .	8,000
Sailors registered and borne on the ships in the harbour, ...	8,000
Attached to the European built vessels, .	1,200
Attached to the junks	1,600
Attached to 100 row galleys, . . .	8,000
In the sea service,	——26,800
	139,800

What the qualities of these troops may be, if measured by a European standard, I cannot pretend to say; but those few which fell under our observation, were active and vigorous young men, not much incumbered with dress, nor was that dress uniform either in point of shape or of colour; except indeed the holiday dress of those who were on guard on the day of our public reception, whose pasteboard helmets and tassels of cow-tails dyed scarlet, quilted jackets and petticoats, were completely Chinese. In general, a handkerchief tied about the head, somewhat in the shape of a turban, a loose smock frock with a pair of drawers, constitute the dress of a soldier.

Religion.

It is scarcely necessary to observe that the religion of the Cochinchinese, like that of almost all the Oriental nations, is a modification of the widely-extended doctrine of Budha; appearing, however, from the little we had an oppportunity of seeing as to the devotional part, more simple, and less disguised with the mysteries and machinery of oracular worship, than that which is practised popularly in China. From a sentiment of gratitude to the benevolent and bountiful spirit, the Cochinchinese, like the Jews of old, manifest their piety by offering to the image of the protecting deity the firstlings of their living flocks and of the fruits of the earth. The first ears of rice, the first ripe nut of the areca, the first cup of sugar, or whatever the nature of the produce may be, is taken to the shrine which contains the sacred image, and is there deposited with becoming reverence, as an humble ackoowledgement of the divine goodness. I was much gratified in the opportunity of being present at an offering of this nature. Landing from our boat one serene evening, in a little cove on the northern shore of Turon bay, I observed a person in a long yellowish coloured robe, reaching to the ground, his head bare and closely shaved, marching with a kind of measured step towards a large spreading tree, and followed by a few of the peasantry. On arriving at the foot of the tree they all halted. Just at the head of the main trunk (for it was a species of *Ficus Indica*, or Banyan tree, called *Dea* in Cochinchina, whose branches take root and become stems) I observed a large cage of latticed work, with a pair of folding doors fixed between two boughs, and partly hidden by the foliage. Within was a wooden figure of *Budha* or *Fo*, of the same corpulent shape, and in the usual sitting posture as he is represented in the temples of China. A little boy attending on the priest stood close before him with a burning coal on a brazen dish. One of the peasants carried a ladder of Bamboo, which he placed against the tree: and another mounting it, deposited, in the cage, before the idol, two basons of rice, a cup of sugar, and one of salt. The priest in the mean time, with arms extended, and eyes turned towards heaven, muttered something in a low tone of

voice,

voice, when the man who had carried the ladder fell on his knees, and nine times prostrated his body on the ground, according to the custom of the Chinese. Several women and children remained at a distance, as if forbidden to approach too near; tho' as priestesses are said to be common in this country, it is not probable there was any restriction on account of their sex.

Besides the spontaneous offerings which individuals conceive it necessary to make on various occasions, it seems that a yearly contribution levied by government, is paid for the support of a certain number of monasteries, in which the priests invoke the Deity for the public welfare. This contribution consists of produce in kind, as rice, fruits, sugar, areca nut, and other articles; in lieu of which, in towns, are collected money, metals, clothing, and such like. The priests here, as in China, are considered to be the best physicians, but their art lies more in charms and fascinations than in the judicious application of sanative drugs.

Scottish Review.

I. An Account of the Life and Writings of Hugh Blair, D.D. F.R.S.E.; one of the ministers of the High Church, and Professor of Rhetoric and Belles Lettres in the University of Edinburgh. By John Hill, L.L.D.; Professor of Humanity in the University, and Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh. 8vo. 6s. Creech, and Manners and Miller, Edinburgh; Cadell and Davies, London.

THERE is no name which occupies a more distinguished place in Scottish literature than that of the subject of the present memoir. The universal admiration excited by his sermons, which seemed even to create a new æra in that species of composition, joined to his elegant taste, and amiable character, seem to have placed him almost at the head of the constellation of men of genius, by which, at that period, this country was adorned. His life, therefore, written as it now is, by one of his most intimate friends, cannot fail to excite a peculiar degree of interest.

Dr Hill states it to have been at Dr Blair's particular request, that he undertook the composition of this memoir. It was no doubt highly honourable to have been the object of such a choice; and the person selected by so excellent a judge of literary composition, may be supposed well qualified to do justice to his subject. We shall proceed therefore, without delay, to satisfy the curiosity of our readers, by an analysis of this interesting work.

Dr Blair's ancestors were respectable. His great-grandfather, Mr Robert Blair, was a clergyman of great distinction in his day, and a determined supporter of the presbyterian establishment. From him sprung, tho' by a collateral branch, Mr Robert Blair, minister of Atholstoneford, and author of the admired poem of "the Grave," whose son has filled with such eminence the office of Solicitor General for Scotland. Dr Blair's father was a merchant in Edinburgh, who, in consequence of his fortune having suffered by the South-Sea scheme, was appointed to an office in the Excise. The son, being of a delicate constitution, is said to have mingled little in the usual sports of childhood, but to have preferred amusing himself, in solitary walks, with repeating the poems of others, or composing some of his own. At the University, he distinguished himself very much, particularly in the Logic class under Professor Stevenson. While attending this class he composed an essay

which

which first displayed the bent of his genius. It was entitled, Περὶ τοῦ Καλοῦ, that is, upon the Beautiful; and received the most flattering marks of the professor's approbation.

Mr Blair was licensed to preach, by the presbytery of Edinburgh on the 21st of October, 1741. Great expectations had been formed of his talents as a preacher, and these were more than fulfilled. His language is said to have been at first somewhat flowery and luxuriant, but this fault gradually corrected itself. One sermon which he delivered in the West Church, became so celebrated, that the Earl of Leven, on hearing of its merit, determined to reward the preacher by procuring him a presentation to the church of Colessie in Fifeshire, which was vacant at that time. Here therefore Dr Blair was ordained, on the 23d September 1742. About a year after, he became candidate for the second charge in the Canongate, which is supplied by popular election; and though his competitor was Mr Robert Walker, then in high estimation as a preacher, he gained by a majority of 218 to 136. here he remained a considerable time; and on the 11th of October 1754, he was translated to Lady Yester's church, and from thence to the High church, on the 15th of June 1758. This last, being attended by the most distinguished audience which this country affords, is understood to terminate the career of a Scottish clergyman. The terms of the act of Council, by which he was translated to this church, are as follows: "Because the Council had it fully ascertained, that his translation would be highly acceptable to persons of the most distinguished character and eminent rank in this country, who had their seats in said church." About the same time, the University of St Andrews created him Doctor of Divinity, an honour which, at that time, was hardly known in Scotland. A year or two after the Town council of Edinburgh, having instituted a chair of Rhetoric, elected him as the first professor, and a salary of 70l. a-year was added by the crown. Having thus conducted Dr Blair to the summit of his literary honours, the writer now proceeds to enquire into the merits by which he had attained them. With this view, he considers him as a *Critic*, as a *Preacher*, and as a *Man*.

The first appearance which Dr Blair made as a Critic was in a Review, which, in the year 1755, he undertook along with Mr Wedderburn, afterwards Earl of Rosslyn, Dr Robertson, and Dr Smith, under the title of the "Edinburgh Review." It was continued only for two numbers, but there are two valuable articles in it,—the Review of Johnson's Dictionary by Dr Smith, and of Hutchinson's "Enquiry" by Dr Blair. This last is said to have been executed with great candour and ability. Dr Blair sook a zealous interest in support of the celebrated poems ascribed to Ossian, and wrote a treatise in vindication of their authenticity, which was admitted, even by his opponents, to be ingenious and elegant. His critical reputation however rests chiefly on the Lectures which he delivered on Rhetoric and Belles Lettres, and which were afterwards published. They were assailed on their first appearance by the severest criticism, but soon triumphed over it, and have since become the standard work on the subject. Dr Hill considers their great excellence to consist in the vigour and correctness of the principle of taste, as it existed in Dr Blair, in the quickness and nice apprehension with which he apprehends beauties and defects. In investigating the general principles of taste, he does not discover the same depth and originality

ginality. He appears to be too timid and cautious, and rarely thinks for himself. Even where he is sensible that the prevailing opinion is erroneous, he is apt to embrace it, rather than attempt any innovation. These faults appear particularly in that part which relates to language; those relating to style and to general criticism are the best. Upon the whole, Dr Hill is of opinion that these Lectures, "though not the most masterly of Dr Blair's works, yet do no discredit to his reputation."

It is upon his sermons that the celebrity of Dr Blair must chiefly depend. Before him, elegance, in these compositions was hardly known or attempted in this country. Their was no medium between wild and unmeaning enthusiasm, and that cold and didactic style which is general among English preachers. Dr Hill here enters into an elaborate examination of the circumstances which form the excellence of a sermon. He then contrasts the bold and declamatory eloquence of the French pulpit, with the dry good sense of the English. He observes,

> Between the extremes of English accuracy and French animation, the model of a perfect sermon is perhaps to be found. He who can blend these together successfully, and in their due proportions, seems destined for eminence in the line of a preacher. As the emotions which he executes rest not upon feverish sensibility, they do not perish as soon as they exist. They may be laid hold of as instruments of persuasion, that are fitted to leave behind them a lasting effect. The person too, whose understanding is thus satisfied does not acquiesce in his conviction, as if it arose from a mathematical proof. It stimulates to action with a well regulated impulse; and while it adds to the wisdom of the hearer, it imparts to him both the desire and the power of turning that wisdom to the advantage of Society.

One great excellency of Dr Blair's sermons is, that they discover more animation than those of most of the English preachers and less than those of most of the French. Bold as his conception and language often are, they seem to be always under his controul. The figures which he employs are seen at once to have a foundation in nature, and rarely is any of them pushed too far. The most vivid emotions which he ever excites in his hearers, imply no suspension of that reason which is employed to temper them. His distribution of the subject is simple and luminous, and each subordinate part is found to hold the place that strictly belongs to it.

Dr Blair's superior ability as a preacher rests perhaps upon no circumstance so much as upon the knowledge he had acquired of the human heart. This knowledge he earned by reading the writings of those most deeply skilled in the science; not from much intercourse with men in the scenes of active life. He could make his hearers perceive their characters in a light that was new to them. Leaving to others those general descriptions, which being applicable almost to all, arrest the attention of none, he spoke home to the individual in the language which he understood. He shewed himself to be not only a correct, but a delicate observer of human nature; and by the beauty and the justness of the execution in the picture at large, could reconcile the Spectator to what would otherwise have shocked him.

We might be accused of partiality to the country to which Dr Blair so long did honour, were we to affirm, that he had surpassed the splendid beauties of Massallon, Bossuet, and Flechier, or the clear and ingenious reasoning of Clark, Barrow, and Butler. In the medium between the extremes to which each set may have leant, he seems to be desirous to find a place. He wished to temper the glow of passion with the coolness of reason, and to give such a scope only to the imagination of his audience, as would leave the exercise of their judgement unimpaired. He tried to accommodate his discussions to the apprehension of those whom he addressed; and when called upon to elucidate the mysteries that bear to be enquired into, he enlivened the dark research by the brilliancy of a well-regulated fancy. The reception which his ser-

sermons have met with throughout Europe, after being translated into different languages, proves equally the merit of the preacher and the candour of his judges. In France his sermons were never said to be inanimate; nor were they in Britain, by good judges, said to be superficial. In both countries, they have at once given pleasure to the gay, and consolation to the serious. By such a mixture of beauty and usefulness, as the world had never before witnessed in their time, they have given fashion to a kind of reading which had long been discarded. They have stopt even the voluptuary in his career, and made him leave the haunts of dissipation, that he might listen to the teacher's reproof.

The last sermon which Dr Blair composed for publication was that on the Effects of Dissipation, which forms the twelfth in the fifth volume. His last appearance in the pulpit was in a sermon which, with much difficulty, he was prevailed upon to preach before the Society for the Sons of the Clergy. From the analysis given in the present work, it appears to discover no failure, either in point of intelligence, or in the art of composition; and we should be happy to see it added to the collection of his discourses.

Dr Hill now proceeds, in the last place, to consider Dr Blair as a *Man*, and in this view he draws his character at great length. The desire of celebrity was in him so strong as even to become the ruling passion. He listened to flattery with visible pleasure, and in the company of his intimate friends was accustomed to express himself, with regard to his own merits, in a manner which bordered on weakness. This disposition, however, was not accompanied with any degree of pride and superciliousness; in his general behaviour he exhibited the utmost gentleness and condescension. He shunned, in mixed companies, making any display of his learning; but shewed himself alive to the most trifling occurrences of the day.

The pleasure with which Dr Blair contemplated his literary success was at the same time accompanied with a singular degree of modesty. Though extremely capable of giving advice, he never obtruded, nor was he very forward to give it even when asked. He took a very strong and decided part in the business of the church, yet he never spoke in its courts, but contented himself with giving his private advice and support to the party of whose measures he approved. In apology for this silence he alledged his ignorance of forms, yet as this could easily have been remedied, and did not at all appear in his private conversations, the cause, it is probable, may be traced to the natural timidity of his character, and his unwillingness to mingle in the active scenes of life. He is said indeed to have been a better judge of measures than of men; his natural benevolence often led him to think too favourably of the latter, and to trust too much to outward appearances. But though thus apt to err in judging of individual character, he had, as appears by his writings, studied deeply human nature in general. In consequence of his profession and habits, his intercourse with the world was not very extensive; but his favourite studies were of that nature which tended most to improve him in this branch of knowledge. He was particularly conversant with history, and used to make abstracts of the most important works of that nature which he perused. He formed chronological tables on a plan of his own invention, which was afterwards, by his friend Dr John Blair, prebendary of Westminster, improved and expanded into the learned work entitled, "The Chronology and History of the World." He took particular pleasure also in the perusal of voyages and travels, and in

in the light which they threw on the progress of society, and the various aspects of human nature. He read also a great deal of fictitious history, and was accustomed to defend it; though in procuring books of this kind he sometimes took a good deal of pains to conceal their being intended for himself.

The gentleness and placidity of Dr Blair's character peculiarly endeared him to his friends, among whom were the most distinguished literary men of the age. With Mr David Hume, notwithstanding the wide difference of their sentiments on the most important subjects, he maintained a cordial intercourse of private friendship, and during his absence carried on a correspondence, which has unfortunately perished. With Dr Robertson he was still more intimate; and these two illustrious friends were uniformly accustomed, before publishing any of their works, to submit them to each others revisal. Next to these his most intimate friends were Dr Adam Smith, Dr Adam Ferguson, and Mr John Home. He did not much court the society of great men; yet there were several to whom he was much indebted both as friends and patrons. General Fraser, Chief Baron Orde, and particularly Lord Melville, not only shewed the strongest marks of friendship, but embraced every opportunity of serving him.

When the office of Principal of the University of Edinburgh became vacant by the death of Dr Robertson, Dr Blair was universally judged the most proper person to supply his place. He declined however making any application for it; yet says his biographer,

> When the appointment was given to another, it is certain that Dr Blair felt the oversight as injurious to himself, and that he was more affected by it than his friends in general could have supposed. Flattered with the respect of the world, and unaccustomed to disappointments during a long life, that had been devoted to literary pursuits, he could ill brook any neglect when that life was drawing to a close. Before the office was disposed of, he appeared rather indifferent about it; and as he was incapable of playing a part, his feelings had certainly deceived him. Between him and the patrons of the University there existed a misconception. He perhaps expected attentions to personal merit, which, when not called to judge of it, they had not been accustomed to pay; and they, perhaps, though they would not have refused his request, thought it became them to wait till the request was made.

The moderate and conciliating conduct of Dr Baird is said, however, to have soon effaced this unfavourable impression.

Dr Blair died on the 27th of December 1800, in the 83d year of his age and the 59th of his ministry. His disease was an inguinal hernia, which was rendered fatal by imprudent concealment.

In April 1748 Dr Blair married his cousin, Mrs Katharine Bannatine, daughter of the Rev. James Bannatine, one of the ministers of Edinburgh. His connection with her was the source of much domestic happiness, and at her death, which happened five years before his own, he shewed that age had not blunted his sensibility. He had two children, a son and daughter, of whom the former died in infancy, the latter, an uncommonly amiable and accomplished young lady, grew up to the age of 20, when her parents had the misfortune of losing her.

Dr Blair, before his death, was induced by his singular modesty, to destroy all his letters; which has rendered it impossible for his biographer to present us with any specimens of his epistolary composition.

II. The Mountain Bard; consisting of Ballads and Songs, founded on Facts and Legendary Tales. By James Hogg, the Ettrick Shepherd. 8vo. 5s. fine 10s. 6d. Constable and Co. Edinburgh; Murray, London.

AMONG the many poetical works which have of late been offered to the public notice, there are few perhaps more deserving of encouragement than the present production. The author (as he himself informs us, in a little confidential memoir prefixed to the volume) enjoyed no advantages of education or circumstances favourable to the cultivation of talent or the expansion of genius. He was born in the humble condition of a shepherd, and descended from progenitors of the same occupation, whose "sober wishes had never learned to stray" beyond the circle of their native fields. Of his education, Mr Hogg gives the following account:

At such an age (he was in his sixth year) it cannot be expected that I should have made great progress in knowledge. The school-house, however, being almost at our door, I had attended for sometime, and had ofttimes the honour of standing at the head of that juvenile class, who read the Shorter Catechism and Proverbs of Solomon. At the next Whitsunday I was obliged to go to service: and being only seven years of age, was hired to a farmer in the neighbourhood to herd a few cows. Next year my parents took me home during the winter quarter, and put me to the school with a lad who was teaching the children of a neighbouring farmer. Here I advanced so far as to get into the class who read in the Bible. I had, likewise, for sometime before my quarter was out, tried writing; and had horribly defiled several sheets of paper with copy lines, every letter of which was nearly an inch in length.—Thus terminated my education: after this I was never another day at any school whatever; and was again, that very spring, sent away to my old occupation of herding cows.

Mr Hogg began to write verses about the year 1793; but the principal pieces in the present collection were composed after the year 1802, at which time the "Minstrelsy of the Scottish Border" fell into his hands. The perusal of that deservedly popular work first seems to have inspired him with the desire of imitating the style and manner of the ancient ballad. The *Ettrick Shepherd*, however, has made himself successfully known as a poet by his communications to the *Scots Magazine*; and the publication of the present volume will not a little heighten the favourable impressions with which his poems in that work have been regarded. Mr Hogg is also known to the public as the author of "Two Essays, connected with the rearing and management of sheep," for which he received premiums from that patriotic body the Highland Society of Scotland.

The first of the poems in the work before us, entitled "*Sir David Græme*," is a ballad of considerable interest. A too circumstantial description of disagreeable objects, however, often fails of raising the passion meant to be inspired. Such we apprehend is the relation of the state in which the body of "the gallant knight" was found by the lady. Perhaps the stanza beginning, "With ae wound thro' his shoulder bane," and the following one, might be left out without injury to the poem. One striking circumstance conveys more to the mind than the most amplified particularization. The Picture of "Sir David's trusty hound" using his endeavours to acquaint the lady with the situation of her murdered lover, is natural and affecting.

"He stopped, and howled, and looked around,
"Then slowly, slowly trudg'd away."

The concluding part of the ballad is pathetic in a high degree.

"*The Pedlar*," a ballad founded on

on a popular tradition in the country where our author resides, is an agreeable little piece. The Miller of Thirlestane, as the story goes, had murdered a pedlar, who, in the course of his peregrinations, had applied to him for a night's accommodation. The pedlar's body was discovered many years afterwards, on repairing the mill. The murderer at that time was unknown:

"But there was an auld mason wha wrought at the mill,
"In rules o' providence skilfu' was he;
"He keepit a bane o' the Pedlar's heel,
"And a queerer wee bane you never did see."

The miller had by this time retired "to the forest o' Jed;" and thither the "auld mason," who seems to have suspected the murderer, hastened with the "wee bane" to try if the miller "was fey," according to the custom of the times. He found the miller in the Smithy, breaking his jokes among the people there assembled. The "wee bane" was produced as a curiosity by the mason; and having gone through the examination of some of the rustics, was at last handed to the miller,

——"wha, wi' spects on his nose,
"To ha'e an' to view it was wonderous fain.

"But what was his horror, as leaning he stood,
"And what the surprise o' the people around,
"When the little wee bane fell a streamin' wi' blood,
"Which dyed a' his fingers, and ran to the ground!"

The spectators immediately charged him with murder, which he confessed, and was executed for the crime. Though the incidents in this ballad are well arranged, yet the effect of the whole is hurt by a sort of serio-comic humour which runs through it. Allusions, such as, "they swore they wad spit him like ony muir-hen," had better been omitted. The author, in talking of the ghost of the pedlar, &c. shows too plainly that he is not affected by the popular superstitions of the country. The measure in which the poem is written is likewise, in our opinion, unfavourable, the anapestic structure of the verses being unsuitable for the relation of such grave matters.

"*Gilmanscleuch*," the next poem in the collection, is one which, both from the nature of the incidents, and the manner in which they are related, excites a very high degree of interest. This too has more the air of antiquity than either of the former, and is indeed a most successful imitation of the style and manner of our earlier minstrels. The author introduces the subject in the following artless dialogue, which we give as a specimen of the work.

"Whair ha'e ye laid the goud, Peggye,
Ye gat on New-yeir's day?
I lookit ilka day to see
Ye drest in fine array:

"But nouther kirtle, cap, nor gowne,
To Peggye has come hame;
Whair ha'e ye stowed the goud, dochter,
I feir ye have been to blame."—

"My goud it was my ain, father,
A gift is ever free;
And when I need my goud agane
Can it be tint to me?—

"O ha'e ye sent it to a friend?
Or lent it to a fae?
Or gi'en it to some fause leman,
To breid ye muckle wae?"—

"I ha'e na' sent it to a friend,
Nor lent it to a fae;
And never man, without your ken,
Shall cause my joy or wae:

"I ga'e it to a poor auld man,
Came shivering to the dore;
And when I heard his waysome tale
I wust my treasure more."—

"What was the beggar's tale, Peggye?
I fain wald hear it o'er;
I fain wald hear that wylie tale
That drained thy little store."

"His hair was like the thistle doune,
His cheeks were furred wi' tyme,

His

His beard was like a bush o' lyng,
When silvered o'er wi' ryme:

"He lifted up his languid eye,
Whilk better days had seen;
And ay he heaved the mournfu' sye,
While saut tears fell atween.

"He took me by the hands, and saide,
While pleasantly he smiled,—
O weel to you, my little flower,
That blumes in desart wilde;

"And may ye never feel the waes
That long ha'e followit me;"—

"Auld Gilmanscleuch's" pathetic tale, which robbed "Peggye" of her "goud," will also steal a tear from every reader of sensibility.—The following stanza concludes the affecting relation:

"For me, I'm but a puir auld man,
That nane regards ava;
The peacefu' grave will end my care,
Where I maun shortly fa'."—

"*The fray of Elibank*" relates one of those plundering excursions which the laws, at the time to which it refers, were unable to repress. In this marauding expedition, the object of which was to plunder a neighbouring chief (Gideon Murray of Elibank) of a few cattle, "Wattie o' Harden" was taken prisoner. For this crime, according to the summary method of those days, it was intended by "auld Judan" that he should be hanged. His lady, however, who had three "hamely daughters," did not much relish this proceeding; and, in consequence of her representations, *auld Judan* gave the young Scott his choice, of either marrying one of the daughters, or ascending the "big-hanging tree." A wise man, in such a situation, would have had no hesitation in accepting of the last alternative, especially when so handsomely offered; and accordingly young Harden spurns at the former.

"Lead on to the gallows, then," Wattie replied;
"I'm now in your power, and you carry it high;
Nae daughter o' yours shall lye by my side;
A Scott, ye man mind, counts it naething to die."

When the preparations were making, however, for putting the sentence into execution, young Harden thought proper to change his mind, and agreed to accept of a daughter as a punishment for the crime. The reflections which the author puts into the mouthof Harden are the only parts of this poem which we blame. We can enjoy *auld Judan's* humour, but must regret, that, in reconciling *young Wattie* to his fate, he should have descended so low as to introduce the following:

"What matter," quo he, "though her nose it be lang?
It will ay keep her ae bieldy side of a face.

"To fondle, or kiss her, I'll never be fain,
Or lie down beside her wi' nought but my sark:
But the first, if I please, I can let it alane;
And cats they are all alike grey in the dark."—

The poem entitled, "*Willie Wilkin*" contains a good deal of the marvellous; but nothing certainly which it might not be expected a *warlock* to perform:

"—Many a mermaid staid his call,
And many a mettled fey;
And many a wayward spirit learn'd
His summons to obey."

The *kirk yard* scene is well imagined, and the conclusion is calculated powerfully to rouse the passions.

"*Thirlestane*, a fragment, is a good imitation of the ancient ballad. The prefixed account of the story, to which it relates, prepares the reader to take more than a common interest in what follows: "We're all here but Lally the piper"—from the mouth of old Sir Robert, raises in the mind a train of the most affecting emotions.

"*Sandy*

"*Sandy Tod*, a Scottish pastoral, addressed to a Lady," possesses a considerable degree of merit. The following stanzas, descriptive of human happiness, are well expressed:

"Fadin' as the forest roses,
Transient as the radient bow;
Fleetin', as the shower that follows,
Is our happiness below.

"Unadmired, she'll hover near ye,
In the rural sport she'll play;
Woo her—she'll at distance hear ye,
Press her—she is gone for ay."

The "Farewell to Ettrick," tho' inferior to the farewell song of Burns, is not without merit. The wish, which is so natural, of returning to the place, endeared to one as the scene of early pleasures, has not been unnoticed by the author, and is feelingly expressed in the following lines:

"But if I kend my dying day,
Though distant, weary, pale, and wan,
I'd take my staff a' post away
To yeild my life where it began."

In the preceding remarks, we have noticed only a few of the poems in the work before us, and have taken these chiefly in the order in which they stood in the volume, rather than from any supposed preference. Others, perhaps of superior merit, have been passed unnoticed. All of them, however, are much above mediocrity, and all are deserving of that approbation, of which individual perusal alone can enable to form an estimate.

The author of these poems has certainly gratified the readers of poetry, and the admirers of merit, by the publication of this collection.—Notwithstanding unfavourable circumstances, he has produced a number of poems which would do no discredit to genius in the happiest situation. It would be uncandid, in remarking on the productions of the "Mountain Bard," to judge of them by a comparison with those of others, or even by the strict rules of poetic composition. The greater part of the ballads are written in professed imitation of the ancient manner, and in reference to times when literature was a rarer accomplishment than at present. As such, they deserve every degree of praise. The number of beautiful and affecting passages make ample amends for any little blemishes that may be discovered. Mr Hogg is a poet from nature; he paints from his own feelings, and he is seldom unsuccessful in his sketches. In the tender and pathetic, however, he is, in our opinion, more likely to excel, than in the light and humourous.—And we sincerely hope that this publication will introduce him to that notice, and that public encouragement, which merit deserves, but for went of which genius has often been doomed

——— "to blush unseen,
"And waste its sweetness in the desart air." S.

New works published in EDINBURGH.

OSSIAN's Poems in the Original Gaelic, with a Latin Translation by the late Robt. M'Farlane, A.M. and a dissertation on their Authenticity. By Sir John Sinclair, Bart. 3 vols. 8vo. 2l 2s.

Delineations of St Andrews: being a particular account of every thing remarkable in the history and present state of the city and ruins, the university, &c. With three elegant views, and a plan of the town, 8vo. 5s.

The Edinburgh Review, No. 19. This number contains.—The dangers of the country.—Colebrooke's remarks on Bengal.—Gordon's history of Ireland.—Carr's stranger in Ireland.—Lord Henry Petty's plan of finance.—Waring's travels in Persia.—Clarkson on Quakerism.—Janson's stranger in America.—Speeches on the Catholic question.

The

The Gospel History, from the Text of the Four Evangelists, in a connected series, with Notes Critical and Explanatory. By Robert Thomson, Writer in Edinburgh. No. I. 1s. The design of this work is to digest the History of the Four Evangelists into one continued Series, or in the order of an Harmony, in their own words, without the aid of Paraphrase or Commentary

A General Pronouncing and Explanatory Dictionary of the English Language. To which is added, a Vocabulary of Scripture Proper Names. The Second Edition, improved. By G. Fulton and G. Knight, Teachers of English, price 4s. 6d. The Vocabulary may be had separate, 6d. Also by the same compilers, A Pronouncing Spelling Book, with Sacred Extracts in Prose and Verse. The fourth Edition, enlarged, 1s. 6d.

SCOTTISH *Literary Intelligence.*

MR Fothergill is about to publish a tour to the Orkney, Shetland, and other Northern Scottish isles.

A new edition of Miss Bannerman's poems will be speedily published, in one quarto volume.

An edition of the works of Fielding, in five volumes, 8vo. with a life of the author, will speedily be published at Edinburgh. The size and type will correspond with Dr Anderson's edition of Smollet.

LITERAY INTELLIGENCE, ENGLISH *and* FOREIGN.

STEREOTYPE PRINTING has not been adopted by the booksellers of London, because it does not appear that more than twenty or thirty works would warrant the expence of being cast in solid pages; consequently the cost of the preliminary arrangements would greatly exceed the advantages to be attained. On a calculation, it has appeared to be less expensive to keep certain works standing in moveable types, in which successive editions can be improved to any degree, than to provide the means for casting the same works in solid pages, which afterwards admits of little or no revision. As the extra expence of stereotyping is in all works equal to the expence of paper for 750 copies, it is obvious that this art is not applicable to new books, the sale of which cannot be ascertained. Although these considerations have induced the publishers of London not to prefer this art in their respective businesses, yet it has been adopted by the Universities of Cambridge and Oxford; and from the former some very beautiful editions of Common Prayer Books have issued to the public; probably the art of stereotyping applies with greater advantage to staple works, of such great and constant sale, as prayer-books and bibles, than to any other.

Certain of the booksellers of London have undertaken to publish a splendid and costly edition of the Chronicles of HOLLINSHEAD, which they intend to follow by similar editions of others of the early chroniclers. It will be remembered, that an octavo edition of Hollinshead has lately appeared at Perth, where we understand it is intended to print octavo and cheap editions of all the interesting chronicles. Every lover of literature will wish success to designs of this kind; but, at a time when the high price of books is a serious evil, it would appear to be superfluous to print quarto editions of works which are only valuable as books of record. Should the octavo Perth edition not proceed, we understand it to be the intention of other London booksellers to print an uniform octavo edition in periodical volumes of all the early historians and chroniclers, under the superintendance of an eminent antiquary.

The public at large are acquainted with the atrocious capture, fortunate escape, and extraordinary flight, of Mrs Spencer Smith, from Brescia, in Italy, to Riga, in Prussia. A narrative of all the particulars will be published in a few days by the Marquis De Salvo, a Sicilian nobleman, to whose magnanimity Mrs Smith was indebted for her escape, and to whose heroic spirit may be attributed the success of her flight. The marquis accompanied her to England, and he has been induced to favour the world with this

this publication, at the particular request of several great personages.

The Rev. James Cordiner, chaplain to the Hon. F. North during his government of Ceylon, is about to publish a Tour round that Island, a Journey to Ramisseram, and a Narrative of the late War with the King of Candy. It will consist of two quarto volumes, embellished with twenty-four engravings.

The Proprietors of Johnson's Poets are printing a new edition of that work in twelve volumes, royal octavo, with additions.

Mr. Joseph Nightingale is preparing for publication an Impartial View of the Origin, Progress, Doctrines, Discipline, and singular Customs, of the Wesleyan Methodists, in a series of Letters addressed to a lady. It is intended this work shall contain several interesting particulars relative to the divisions which have taken place among the methodists since the death of Mr. Wesley.

The ninth edition of Mr. Surr's Winter in London, and the fourth of Miss Owenson's Wild Irish Girl, are in the press.

A Sketch of the Black Empire of Hayti, from communications with the seat of its present government, will soon appear in an octavo volume.

M. de Krusenstern, being returned from his voyage round the world, is now about to prepare his account for the press. He will be assisted by a committee of the Imperial Academy of Sciences, in verifying the astronomical observations. All the drawings brought home celebrated by that navigator will be placed in the hands of the most skilful engravers. An engagement has been made with a London bookseller for an English edition.

Poetry.

CALEDONIA.

I.

IN summer tide, ae rosy settled eve;
On ilka leaf, pure shone the siller dew;
From life's gay sphere, the busy croud I leave,
To roam in solitude, the woodlands thro':
Sae late as I my journey did pursue,
Alone I wander'd, by that royal dome
Where Caledonia's kings once had their home.

II.

My bosom heav'd a sigh, for grief was there,
I mark'd with tear-struck eye, the will of fate,
And silent mourn'd alone, these ruins bare,
The last sad remnant of a once fam'd state.
Ingratitude the story how relate;
Our Kings, our nobles, left their father's home,
Forsaken! and deserted! and forlorn!—

III.

Thus on I silent mused, nor small the cause,
When o'er the field, in sable weeds, I saw
A nymph appear—she seem'd of princely race,
Majestic was her eye, though full of woe.
Aft, aft she sigh'd, as aft the tears did flow.
A torn crown she held, her head was bare,
And still she wip'd awa the drapin' tear.

IV.

Upon her breast was many a patriot name,
Depicted fair, full many a hardy knight
Of other times, the fav'rite sons of fame;
But chief a patriot hung, 'twas Wallace wight,
Shining in golden letters glorious bright;
A deeply varied plaid begirt her waist,
And her fair locks a rough bur thistle grac'd.

V.

In grief she eyed her crown, then heav'd a sigh.
Great were the sorrows of her troubled breast;
Syne to the palace rais'd a languid eye,
And as with solemn pace, she onward past,
With uncouth gesture, I the fair address'd,
Say, lovely lady, whence proceeds thy grief?
Command my arm if it can bring relief.—

VI.

Ah no, my son, weak is thy willing arm,
Tho' true thy breast, it can't avert my fate,
My grief is stamped by the hand of man,
And ills on ills attendant on me wait;
My honours reft, my woes, my sorrows great,
It was, O 'twas my sons wrought all this woe,
It was —— —— gave the fatal blow!

ROBERT GLASSFORD.

PRO-

Proceedings of Parliament.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Monday, Feb. 18.

Laws of Scotland.

Lord Grenville rose, pursuant to notice given, of submitting to the deliberate attention and serious decision of their Lordships, a Bill for the better Regulation of the Administration of Justice in Scotland. It was his duty, in the first instance, to clear up, or rather totally to contradict an opinion, which, though not entertained by their Lordships, had, by some means, found its way too generally throughout the country, viz. That the object of the present Bill was fundamentally to alter the laws and usages in the Scottish system of jurisprudence. To this unjustified impression might be attributed, in a great degree, any opposition and hostility which it was likely to meet, either in this country, or in that part of the kingdom more immediately interested in the issue. Wantonly to interfere with those laws and institutes, which, for a series of ages, supported the security and credit of a great country, he trusted the House would conceive, that in this extensive empire, he would be the last man. The opinions he entertained, the conclusions he had deduced, from a long and practical attention to human conduct, the reflections he was induced to make on the various situations of different countries, fully and decisively convinced him, that in legislation there was nothing so false, as to apply the usages and institutes of one country, however beneficial and highly valued, to another, where a system of jurisprudence, varying in its modes and forms, had been for a succession of ages established. The endeavours to mould the habits and duties of a people so long subject to such a system, would be the means of perhaps introducing greater and more fatal evils, than those which were hoped to be remedied.—But there was a great and leading difference between an innovation on the system of jurisprudence, the mischievous effects of which no fanciful or pleasing theory could compensate, and that deliberate and well regulated alteration in the mode and forms of administering justice, which a conviction of the existing evils, in the manner of that administration, must apppear to demand.

The point resolved itself into this simple question—Were there evils in the administration of justice in Scotland, and were they of a nature as loudly to call for a remedy? From the numerous inquiries he had made, from the great and valuable information he had thought it his duty to seek, and which from men, eminent in talents, and versed in the principles of the Scottish Law, he had the honour of obtaining, it was universally admitted, that such evils did exist; and that it was a great and necessary duty of legislative wisdom, to take such defects into speedy consideration, for the purpose of providing a suitable and appropriate remedy. But he wished not to be understood as meaning any thing individiously, or, that in the evils to which he alluded, there was the slightest intention of casting an unjust and unmerited aspersion on those respected characters who filled the judicial seat in Scotland. The evils which he proposed to correct, arose from the constitution, or rather from the mode in which they were forced by the law, as it then stood, to administer justice to the various suitors in the different Courts.

The first objection which he felt strongly to operate on his mind, was the number of Judges which composed the Court of Session in Scotland. To this number, amounting to fifteen, all causes were referred; and, in the decision of the causes, each individual Judge was obliged to give his opinion *seriatim*; a circumstance which produced no inconsiderable source of delay. In this country, where the strong and salutary principle of responsibility operates on every person intrusted with that serious and dignified office, where, in the exercise of his judicial duties, he must, on every occasion, prepare for the observation

vation of a strict, vigilant, and learned bar, and through that bar for the discussion of an enlightened and jealous public, the benefits of such a feeling of responsibility are every day found in the propriety of the decisions, and in the integrity and justice with which the judicial character is supported. This principle of responsibility, so important in its effects, and salutary in its consequences, derives its greatest impulse from the divisions of our Courts of Justice. Each Judge is interested in the result of every case; he weighs the nature of his duties, and tho' he be surrounded by his fellow-Judges, he feels on the occasion as if his own character was solely involved. But in Scotland the case was widely different. There the number precludes any individual feeling of responsibility; the force of the check, which in this country exists, is there entirely weakened; where fifteen are called to decide, a diversity of opinion must be naturally expected, and, in that difference of opinion, it is impossible to ascertain what is, or what is not the law of the case. The principle of responsibility has a more extensive operation; it actuates all who are induced to introduce the merits of those whom they wish to see promoted to the Judicial Bench. In England, the value of the recommendation is quickly appreciated; scarcely a week elapses, from the time of his appointment, when the Judge is called upon to fulfil the duties of his new acquired station, and to give to the public the opportunity of deciding, whether the selection has been properly made; and if not, it provides them with the means of analyzing the motives which led to such a recommendation. But under the system in Scotland, it is not capable of forming a correct estimate of the merits and demerits of each individual promoted to that elevated office; nor, therefore, can those beneficial consequences be expected, which, in all situations of life, follow from a full conviction, that the public and the country are vigilantly employed in examining into the result of public exertions, and the springs of official pursuits. To such disadvantages, the present system in Scotland is not limited, nor are these the only evils incidental to so large a number sitting as Judges.

It was a remark of a learned Judge, (Lord Swinton), that though in the other transactions of life, the greater the number employed for the performance of any specific purpose, the more the labour would be subdivided, and consequently, the task on each individual would be lighter; this conclusion, so correct in every other respect, is directly contrary to that which the organization of the judicial seat in Scotland affords. From its constitution, the more the number of Judges is increased, the greater will be the labour of each; and for this obvious reason, that the decisions of the Court are not founded on the direct matter of fact, or a *viva voce* evidence, but on general pleadings, and testimony taken by commission, and on which every Judge must separately give his opinion. To remedy this inconvenience, and to provide against its recurrence, two methods press themselves on the consideration of the House; either that the number of the Judges in the Court of Session should be diminished, or that the Court be divided into distinct Chambers, similar to the Courts of King's Bench and Common Pleas in this part of the Empire. About twenty years ago, a motion was submitted to the Legislature, for the purpose of diminishing the number of the Scotch Judges, on the very grounds of the inconvenience alluded to. It was rejected, from being universally unacceptable throughout Scotland; and with every principle of justice, because the number of the Judges was a constitutional right guaranteed by the Union between the two countries. The other method of amendment was the division of the Court of Session into Chambers of concurrent and co-ordinate jurisdiction. What has been proved from such a division in this country, might certainly, without any reference to technical forms, be fairly concluded to produce equal advantage, if applied, under proper circumstances, to Scotland. It is a painful assertion, but not more painful than true, that there is in that part of the country an utter want of confidence in the suitors of the Court of Session. Such a feeling might probably arise from their being confined to one Court, and not having the benefit of choice, in the same manner as the suitors in the Courts of England.

What

Whatever may be the opinion on the cause, the effects were fully and unanswerably exhibited by the number of Scotch Appeals on the table of the House: A number, which it was actually impossible for the House to get through, consistent with its various other necessary duties. Indeed, when the exertions, which had already been made, were considered, and the great arrear which remained, notwithstanding such exertions, the House may be fairly said to be bankrupt, with respect to such causes, it having got actually to the end of its means.

With respect to the division of the Court of Session into Chambers, it was to be recollected, that it was not altogether a new or extraordinary measure, as the Court of Session was grafted on the Parliament of Paris. A difference of opinion has existed, relative to the propriety of dividing it into two or three Chambers. In the former division, the two Chambers would consist, the one of eight, and the other of seven Judges. This would certainly diminish the evil arising from the great number, but not in the degree that the Legislature should approve, when providing this appropriate remedy. The division into three Chambers, in which five Judges should sit, would be best calculated to answer every end of legislative inquiry, and to correct the vicious effects of the present organization. The emulation of these respective Chambers, the choice which the suitors would be enabled to indulge, the celerity of the decision, so necessary a part of the administration of justice, would all tend to produce the most desirable reform, and to prevent that pressure of Appeal Cases, which, under the present system, have, and must be still expected to accumulate.

The next head to which the present Bill referred, was the introduction of the trial by jury, in certain defined and expressed cases. It was not from the partiality of an Englishman, in estimating the great and unlimited blessings of that invaluable privilege, that he was induced to make that measure a part of his plan of regulation. He recommended it on the immutable principles of justice, on the conviction of fair and logical reasoning; and he recommended it to a country which was acquainted with its merits, in criminal cases, as well as those of revenue. It was not the intention of the present Bill to extend it to the rights of landed property. In Scotland they were mostly questions of law, and could be best decided by the Judges. Its object would solely embrace personal rights and mercantile transactions. In a Court so constituted as the Court of Session, it was impossible that where such a number of Judges, or the majority of them, were called on to decide on the law and the fact, the suitors would rest satisfied with a decision procured under such discouraging circumstances, and therefore, an application to the ultimate jurisdiction of the House was almost usually fixed on. The evidence by commission, was also a custom, which, in his opinion, and by the operation of his Bill, should give way to *viva voce* testimony. The manner in which the pleadings were at present prepared, and the mode in which the testimony was received, were, in their operation, productive of confusion. The Judges employed in the perusal of a variety of similar documents, were often obliged to come to a decision, with the impression of what they had previously read, considerably weakened, by having their attention directed to some voluminous pleadings more recently submitted to their consideration.

The third alteration, which he had to propose, was the necessity of some intermediate Court of Appeal; and previously to the consideration of that proposal, he wished to impress on their Lordships, the propriety of putting an end to appeals upon interlocutory judgments, and limiting them totally to final. How the Court of Intermediate Appeal should be constituted, was a matter of considerable importance and circumspection. Some very able and learned characters have been of opinion, that the formation of any new chamber, to which the Court of Session may be supposed to be subordinate, would be a violation of the Act of Union. To this conclusion there are strong objections; the Act of Union, and the various provisions with respect to the administration of justice, were left open to future regulation, where that regulation was absolutely wanting, and where the exercise of the right of revision was fully and completely justified. Under such impres-

impressions, the hereditable jurisdictions were abolished; and in the reign of George I. the Court of Session was altered, by the vote of Parliament having put an end to the office of the Lords Extraordinary. Thus, although the power of regulating, with a view to the better administration of justice, has been established as the right of Parliament; yet, in constituting the intermediate Court of Appeal, it had been his wish to adhere strictly to the letter and spirit of the Articles of Union. A Judge from each of the other three Chambers, with the Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer, whom it is proposed to make a Lord of Session, and to repeal the Act of George I. for the abolition of the Lords Extraordinary, so far as to give permission to his Majesty to create one, would constitute a Fourth Chamber, calculated to take a full revision of the proceedings of the other Courts; and to answer all the necessary and beneficial purposes of an intermediate Court of Appeal. No prohibition was intended by the bill, against the right of the Judge, against whose decision the appeal was made, to sit in that Chamber. In some cases it might be serviceable, but it was deemed more advisable to leave it on all occasions to his feelings.

The noble Lord concluded his able and perspicuous statement, by calling on the House, not to consider the present measure as that of any individual or individuals in the House; but trusted, that both in the general outline, and the more necessary detail, it would receive all the assistance, and matured wisdom, which the suggestions of their Lordships individually, and the legislative wisdom of the House, were so powerfully enabled to communicate. The time for its second reading he proposed for that day three weeks; an interval in which the measure could obtain that great public discussion which would materially assist its progress through Parliament, and its acceptance throughout that part of the country for which it was intended. He then moved, "that the bill, entitled An Act for the better regulating the Administration of Justice in Scotland, be read a first time."

The *Duke of Montrose* thought the Court of Review, proposed by the Noble Baron, would be ineffectual to the end proposed; nor did he conceive that there would be sufficient business for the three Chambers, independent of the Court of Exchequer. He professed himself friendly to the general principle of the measure; but there was some strong objections to some of the proposals in the present bill. He felt inclined to prefer a division of the Court of Session into two Chambers, the Inner and Outer, allowing the Lords Ordinary a greater length of time to transact the business of the Outer Court. With respect to the trial by jury, educated as he was in England, he must be attached to that valuable privilege; but, nevertheless, he had his doubts as to the propriety of introducing it suddenly into that part of the empire. This was not his solitary opinion, but that of many learned and intelligent characters among the landed and commercial classes.—Upon the maxim of the Noble Baron, that nothing unnecessary should be introduced, or that experience ought not to be sacrificed to beautiful theory, he trusted, that the measure would not be decided on hastily, but in the most cautious, guarded, and temperate manner. Great alarm, he knew, had been excited on this point; and therefore he apprehended, that the confusion, the result of such an innovation, would tend to produce disgust at the whole measure. With such an impression, he would recommend to the Noble Lord to bring in separate Bills; the first for the regulation of the constitution of the Court of Session; and the other for the introduction of the trial by jury. He hoped sufficient time would be given for the fullest consideration, particularly to the people of Scotland, and intimated the advantage of having the Scotch Judges, or a part of them, present at the discussion.

Lord Eldon professed himself long convinced of the necessity of some alteration, to remedy the defects of that system of judicial form. But whilst he felt it his duty to declare that opinion, there was no man who more highly respected the learning, wisdom, and integrity of those dignified characters, who were intrusted with the power of administering justice in Scotland. Every aid in his humble means he would most ardently

ardently give, to consummate such a desirable, long wanted alteration, in the regulation of Scottish forms.

Lord Hawkesbury was deeply impressed with the necessity of some similar regulation, in consequence of the vicious construction of the Courts in Scotland. To the character given by his Noble Friend of the Judges, he fully subscribed; some of them he personally knew, but for all he entertained the most profound respect. He was inclined to coincide with his Noble Friend (Duke of Montrose,) that though the division of the Court of Session into Chambers of concurrent jurisdiction, was expedient, yet it would be more beneficial to limit that division to two Chambers. To the Court of Revision he was friendly, however he may differ as to the plan of its Constitution. He thought it most advisable to separate the trial by jury from the other measure of regulation, as the adoption of the latter would probably make way for the other. He was giving no opinion on the propriety of its introduction, but he thought much might be gained by bringing them in distinctly.

Lord Ellenborough said, there was one paramount consideration for their Lordships, namely, the utter impossibility for this House to exercise its power as a Court of Appellant jurisdiction, or to perform its duties to the suitors of the empire, unless some stop or limit was put to the influx of Scotch Appeals. It was truly said by the Noble Baron, that, with reference to Appeals, the House was actually bankrupt, having arrived at the end of its means. The Noble Lord commented on the confusion such a number of Judges as the Court of Session consisted of, must produce, contrasted with the decision and promptitude which the Courts of England, from their smaller scale, displayed. He next adverted to the numerous blessings of that invaluable privilege, the trial by jury. In Scotland, there were cases not analogous to any thing in English law, for which the trial by jury was not adapted; but in time, such cases may be provided for, in a manner similar to that so wisely adopted by our forefathers, in that sort of convergency designated pleadings at common law. He never could be convinced that, to the participation of such a blessing, there was on the part of any people an unwillingness, until he saw the table of the House crowded with petitions, with signatures as numerous as the population of Scotland.

The *Earl of Suffolk* thought that the trial by jury would not be an innovation on the system of Scots jurisprudence. He added, that he deemed the present salaries of the Scots Judges inadequate to the due support of their stations.

The Lord Chancellor took occasion to panegyrize the trial by jury, the full value of which, he said, he did not know till within the last twelve months.

The Bill was then read a first time, and ordered to be printed.

Monday, March 9.

Mr Langlands, from the Court of Teinds in Scotland, presented a list of augmentations of the stipends of Ministers from 1790 to 1803.—Ordered to lie on the table.

MEMORIAL OF THE SCOTS JUDGES.

The Lord Chancellor stated, that he had received a letter from the Lord President of the Court of Session in Scotland (addressed to him as Lord High Chancellor,) purporting to be a Memorial from the College of Justice, which was signed by the Lord President and ten other Judges, with a note of dissent from the four remaining Judges. It adverted to the bill now before the House for the better regulation of Courts of Justice in Scotland, and stated, that it was of great importance that they should be permitted to lay before the House certain considerations relative to that subject. As he could not, from the form of the memorial, move that it should be now laid upon the table, he wished to receive their Lordships instructions as to the course of proceeding which he should adopt. He therefore moved, that the Lords should be summoned for to-morrow.—Ordered.

Tuesday, March 10.

Lord Grenville, in order that the House might be in possession of accurate information respecting the state of the appeals to that House, moved, that the clerk should prepare an account of the number of appeals brought to that House, distinguishing those from the Courts

Courts here and from Scotland, with the number decided upon, dismissed, &c. from 1794 to 1801; and also the like account of appeals, distinguishing those from Scotland and Ireland, from 1801 to the present time.—Ordered.

The following is the number of appeals from Scotland, from 1801 to 1807, as laid before the House of Lords, according to the above order, viz.

1801, 25; 1802, 30; 1803, 38; 1804, 38; 1805, 27; 1806, 45; 1807, 38. Total, 241.

Set down for hearing, 167; heard 75; affirmed, 51; reversed 13; remitted 11; withdrawn 42; dismissed, not being prosecuted, 36; not set down for hearing 24.

Scots Judges Memorial.

The Lord Chancellor again stated the receipt of a memorial from the College of Justice in Scotland, respecting the Scots judicature bill, and requested their Lordships instructions respecting it.

Lord Grenville declared himself satisfied with the motives which had induced his Noble and Learned Friend to apply to their Lordships for advice. But he still must assert, that the usages and forms of Parliament, the practice and precedents of the House, were conclusive against the receiving of this memorial from the Court of Session. Parliament had uniformly, for the best and most salutary reasons, denied to any person or body the right or opportunity of giving advice upon subjects submitted to its legislative consideration. But there was a farther objection, arising from the uniform custom of the House not to allow even petitions to be laid upon its table coming from any alledged body, unless that body were legally and justifiably entitled to approach the legislature in a corporate capacity. For his own part, he was extremely anxious to have the House put in possession of the opinion of that venerable court. From some of the suggestions of the memorial (for he had also been honoured with a copy of it from the Lord President) he had received important information; on other points he was still obliged to dissent. He recommended to the Learned Lord to state, in a respectful manner, to the Learned Person from whom he received the memorial, the insuperable objections that prevented him from presenting it to the House.

Lord Eldon and the *Duke of Montrose* were of opinion, that although the House could not receive a communication from the Court of Session in the manner in which the present memorial was made, yet it was of the highest importance that the opinion and advice of so learned and venerable a body, on a subject which so peculiarly involved their interests and duties, should be fully in possession of their Lordships, before they were called upon to decide on perhaps one of the greatest changes which ever took place in the administration of justice in any country.—There were other modes whereby that instruction and information could be obtained. For instance, it was in the power of the House to resolve, that the measure should be submitted to the opinion of the Court of Session, for the purpose of enabling it to gain beneficial information from the report which should be made. There were precedents for such a line of procedure, and it was for their Lordships to adopt that which tended to promote the means of acquiring the most correct knowledge of the merits of the measure.

The Lord Chancellor said, he would take upon himself to make the necessary communication to the Learned Lord from whom he received the memorial, without in any manner committing the House, or compromising its privileges or character.

Thursday, March 12.

Scotch Judicature.

Lord Grenville rose to make his motion respecting the memorial from the Lords of Session, containing their objections to the above bill. In attending to that memorial, he thought it best to avoid every thing that could be construed into invidious distinction. He should, therefore, move, that the Lord President, and the two Senior Judges, do attend the service of that house with all convenient speed.

Lord Kinnaird did not imagine that their attendance would have any beneficial effect. It might, in his opinion, be better to send the objections to Scotland,

land, and there collect the opinions of the Scots Judges upon them.

Lord Lauderdale stated, that such a measure would be inconvenient, indeed impossible, as these Judges would at the present moment be dispersed.

Lord Auckland and *Lord Eldon* acquiesced in the proposition of Lord Grenville, but wished to have it distinctly understood, that the attendance of any of the other Lords of Session who might find it convenient would be desireable.

After a few words from the *Duke of Montrose*, Lord Grenville's motion was agreed to, and the bill read a second time.

Monday, March 16.

The order of the day, for going into a Committee on the Scotch Judicature bill, being read,

The Duke of Montrose, after some preliminary observations, said, that the bill in question went most materially to alter and change the judicature of that part of the united kingdom; and he must, before the House went into a Committee upon this bill, declare his most ardent and decided opposition to the measure. The two great objects this bill was proposed to effect were, preventing such a number of appeals to that House, and to relieve the Court of Session from a great weight of business, by dividing it into more Courts, and by introducing the trial by Jury in civil cases. A Noble Lord (Eldon,) who had for years been a Counsel at the bar of that House, and had conducted many appeal causes before he sat in judgement upon them, thought the House should not confine itself to granting only 200l. costs, but that it would be much better to grant full remuneration, in damages to the party who had suffered. This would in a great degree remove that evil; and the difference of opinion seemed to be, whether it should be done by small degrees, or by a positive enactment? The next object was to relieve the Court of Session, by appointing a Court of Review; but this latter Court was again narrowed, and would be no more able to do the business than the Court of Session; and the consequence would be, that the Court of Review would find itself bankrupt as to business. The next objection was, that this measure was directly contrary to the understanding between the two nations, and contrary to the letter of the act of union. The appointment of two extra Lords was a sort of jurisdiction they could not agree to; the Chief Justice might be an English lawyer, and the decrees of the one Court would be reversed perhaps frequently in the other; so that this measure could not prevent appeals to their Lordships bar; and they would find it necessary, at last, to restore to the Court of Session its original powers. But if the parties were compelled to lodge the money in Court until the cause should be finally decided, he thought it would check all unnecessary appeals. His Lordship's next objection was the trial by Jury in civil cases, which he considered so general and capacious a measure, that there was scarcely any case which might not be brought before that Court by an ingenious practitioner. He objected to this general manner of proceeding; but thought the best mode to make a fair trial of it would be, to introduce it first into the capital, Edinburgh, until they should be able to comprehend the duty they had to fulfil. This measure was not called for by any circumstances with which he was acquainted; no petitions upon the subject had been presented from any persons of landed property, manufacturers, or any other description of persons who might be interested in it. He farther objected to this measure, as being an additional expence to the nation at large, and giving a considerable increase of patronage to the Government: not that he meant by any means to say, that this was the object of the Noble Lord at the head of the Government (Grenville) in introducing this bill. It was also an insult to the feelings, and degrading to the station of the Judges presiding at the head of the Supreme Court of Scotch Judicature. The people of Scotland were very tenacious of the obligation of an oath, and in many cases they might be either starved or perjured. The trial by Jury may do very well for England (*Hear, hear, from the Treasury Bench,*) but it will not answer when 12 men cannot agree, and the introduction of it would only create confusion in that country. His Lordship, therefore, would wish to propose, that the Court of Session should be divided into two Courts, and that the Lord President

should

sit at the head of each; and during his absence from the one Court, the Vice President, Lord Justice Clerk for the time being, should preside in the other; this he considered would occasion much greater solemnity and regularity in the proceedings, and be of very considerable advantage upon the whole. After shortly recapitulating these several arguments, his Lordship concluded by moving, "That instructions should be given to the committee to divide the present bill into two or more bills, separating that part relating to the Judicature from that relating to trial by Jury."

Lord Redesdale considered this bill as a "species of juggle, or a kind of keeping the word of promise," as a measure which will not remove the evils complained of, but may infringe, and did in fact violate the act of union, and amounted to a breach of contract between the two countries; he could not see the necessity of the measure, and asked, why it could not be left to the Court of Session itself, to make delegations from its own body, and form them into three Courts or Chambers? By doing that, the House would adhere fully to the principles of the Union. His Lordship thought the introduction of the trial by Jury, in civil cases, into Scotland, should form a separate bill, and should be fully considered first by persons who were conversant with the Courts of Scotland. In elucidating this subject, his Lordship adverted to a French lawyer, who came to this kingdom some years ago to study the English laws, for the purpose of introducing the trial by Jury into France: it fell to his Lordship's lot to be his instructor and adviser; but after giving the utmost attention to the subject, he returned to his own country, impressed with the extreme impossibility of adopting such a measure. His Lordship, therefore, wished the House not to go into the bill until the arrival of the Scotch Judges, whose assistance would be of the utmost importance; otherwise they would be proceeding to apply a remedy without having the proper information before them; and for these reasons he objected to going into the Committee.

The Earl of Selkirk differed materially from the Noble and Learned Lord in the opinion he had advanced as to the present bill. That Learned Lord had said, that it went to violate the articles of Union, but he had forgotten to state to their Lordships the reasons and arguments which warranted such an assertion. If the House should examine into the history of that compact, it would be found, that a prospective view was taken of those regulations, which, in the course of time, the administration of justice in Scotland might require.—Of the principle and necessity of an alteration in the Scottish Judicature, every man who knew that country must be aware; and, in his opinion, the bill submitted by the Noble Lord was calculated to produce the most beneficial and necessary effects.

Lord Eldon felt the important duty which the House was that night called on to discharge; and though he was convinced of the absolute necessity of doing something, he still could not conceal his opinion, that, in the digestion of the present measure, sufficient caution was not used, nor was there sufficient respect paid to the sentiments and judgment of the bar and bench in that country. With respect to the arguments advanced by the Noble Proposer of the measure, as arising from the number and pressure of appeal causes, he could only say, that whatever regulations this bill might make on that head, the inconvenience would still continue. It was not a right criterion to regulate the number of appeals from Scotland, by a comparison with the number presented from this part of the island. It was to be recollected that the Scottish Courts had no representative in the House, a circumstance which naturally tended to increase the number of such applications. The protraction and tediousness which marked every stage of their progress, in a great degree arose from the inability of the Scotch Lawyers to attend at the bar of the House until late in the session of Parliament; and, consequently, a number of causes of that description were, of necessity, deferred; whilst such causes continued to operate, the House would never be able to overtake the business submitted to its judicial decision. That the necessity for some regulation existed, no person could deny; the point at issue, was, whether the measure proposed by the Noble Baron was the one most likely

ly to remedy the admitted defects? In the present state of that measure, he could not assent to many parts of it, for the clearest of all reasons, because many of its provisions and enactments were at present unintelligible to him. He was bold to say, that to render it beneficial in principle, and comprehensive in detail, it would require the attention, diligence, and wisdom of the House, aided by the talents and information of the ablest and most experienced Scotch and English Lawyers. For his own part, he was free to admit, that under the present view of the subject, if he was placed on the bench of the Court of Session, he would, from an ignorance of its provisions, be unable to expound the meaning and context of the present measure. Relative to the trial by Jury, friendly as he certainly was to its utility and principle, yet he could conceive cases in the system of jurisprudence where the introduction of that measure would rather be attended with evil than productive of benefit. It was no argument in his mind, because the people of this part of the empire were justly attached to such a valuable privilege, that, therefore, it should be introduced in the laws and regulations of another part of the nation, where the salutary principle would not be operative, but may be attended with unserviceable consequences. The framers of the present measure appeared to forget, that they were to regulate a Court which combined in its investigation pleadings of law and equity; and a consequence was, that, by the present bill, whilst the performance of one duty called a Lord of the Court of Session to the Highlands, the same Judge would be wanted to perform another duty at Edinburgh, under the provisions of the present bill. The Noble Lord entered at large into the various processes of the Courts of Scotland, with a view of proving, that the measure submitted by the Noble Baron was not competent to the ends proposed; and that whilst it was loaded with objections, it did, in no manner, remedy the defects which he admitted to exist.—To the good intentions of the advocates of the measure he gave every credit; but he must again impress upon the House, that it was impossible to ascertain either the nature of the evil, or the manner of remedy, until the House had fully and maturely weighed the tenor of the information which it would be enabled to receive from the distinguished persons whom it was intended to examine at the bar of the House.

Lord Grenville said, the Learned Lord had complained of a want of caution in the digestion of the present bill, of a want of respect to the distinguished characters who compose the Court of Session, and the able Lawyers who adorn its bar. In the course which had been adopted, their Lordships should bear in mind, that the House recommended certain resolutions, with respect to the introduction of this act of regulation, in the last session—a circumstance unprecedented, save in the union between this country and Ireland.—When this session he had brought in the bill, he fully entered into the merits of the measure, and proposed such an interval of time between the first and second reading as was calculated to inform the public mind, and the parties interested, on the nature of the remedy proposed, and the alteration intended. It has been represented by some as a violation of that solemn compact of union, which it is the paramount duty of the House most strictly to preserve.—Was it possible for him to think of the measure he recommended in the slightest degree trenched on the provisions of that great legislative contract, he would feel it the duty of their Lordships at once to resist it. But he was assured, that it was neither inconsistent with the articles of the union, or the precedents of the House, since the adoption of that measure. The Court of Session, the Supreme Court of Scotland, was founded on the Parliament of Paris. The Parliament of Paris was subdivided into Chambers. This bill only did that which existed in that Parliament, upon which the Court of Session was ingrafted. So far it was only an acknowledgment of the original constitution of that Court. Another objection was, the appointment of new Judges, for the purpose of constituting a Court of Review. In this particular, the opponents of the measure are equally mistaken. No new Judges were appointed; but, in forwarding the system of regulation, the Legislature was called upon to revive those appointments which did exist at the period of the

the Union, and which were only abolished by the 10th of George the First. It will not be contended, that if Parliament had at that period the power of abolishing the offices of Extraordinary Lords, it has not now a right to exercise a similar authority, in the revival of them. But when Noble Lords inveigh against the subdivision of the Court of Session into Chambers, as violating the articles of the Union, they furnish equal weapons to destroy the motion which the Noble Duke (Montrose) had thought proper to make.—If the subdivision into Chambers be a violation of the articles of the Union, the objection is equally valid, both against the subdivision into two, proposed by the Noble Duke, and into three, which the present bill would effect.—But the Court of Session has already exercised the right of dividing itself into the outer and inner Chambers; and surely it will not be argued, that Parliament is not competent to do that which a subordinate Court of Justice has previously effected. An able and distinguished character had, in an unanswerable manner, deprecated that monstrous incongruity and irreconcilable policy, which would bind up the hands of the legislature, and not permit it to vary the forms of administering justice for the period of one hundred years. But it was idle to take up the time of the House by answering such objections. The Union gave to Parliament the power, and it was the duty of their Lordships to confer on Scotland this great boon; at the same time that it would enable them, in the exercise of their judicial functions and duties, to do that justice to both England and Ireland, from which they were now in no small degree prevented by the pressure of Scotch causes of appeal.

Lord Eldon rose to explain.

Lord Melville stated, he was of opinion, with the Noble Lord, that there would be a much better opportunity to discuss the expediency of the measure at length in the Committee. He was not inclined to assert, with others, that the proposed change in the number of the Judges was contrary to the spirit or letter of the act of Union. He had himself introduced into Parliament, near twenty years ago, a bill for that express purpose; and though several were of opinion that this change was contrary to the principles of the Union, yet he, in conjunction with some others, whose friendship at that time did him honour, thought decidedly otherwise; and in this opinion, they were supported by the assent of the greater part of both nations. His objection then was confined to that part of the bill which introduced the trial by Jury into the Scottish Courts of Judicature; this, he conceived, totally unfitted to the genius and disposition of the country, which was repugnant to the change, and conceived it a dangerous innovation of their ancient customs and privileges.—He conceived the establishment of a Chamber of Review in Scotland would be attended with no beneficial consequences, as to lessening the number of appeals which might be preferred to that House, as the Scotch were remarkably tenacious of their opinions, especially in matters of law, and would never be satisfied with the decision of this mock Court of Judicature. In fact, it would be found not only useless in the practice, but absurd in the principle itself. It was to invest certain legal officers with powers which never would be called into action; or, if called into action, and this Court should decide on cases which had previously passed through the Inner and Outer Chambers, their decision would still be considered as imperfect, from the causes beforementioned, and the parties would never fail to bring the matter at issue finally before this House. Thus the process of law would be rendered both more tedious and expensive to the parties, by multiplying the stages through which they were to arrive at a final determination. He considered this substitution of a Chamber of Review as a breach of the bill of right, contained in the act of Union, which stated, that the Scotch people should have the power to appeal immediately from the Court of Session to the British Parliament. And, in the consideration of this material question, he hoped the supporters of the bill would treat with some deference the excited feelings of a whole nation. He finally expressed a wish that the Noble Lord would separate the first of the objects of the bill from the last; and, as each was sufficiently comprehensive, they might be submitted to

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the House in a less objectionable form; for though he himself was a friend to the reduction of the number of Judges, he could never consent to it when accompanied with the other clauses, to which he had stated his objections in a cursory manner; but which he would take an opportunity of stating at length in the Committee, should the bill come before them in its present form.

The Earl of Lauderdale contended, that the articles of Union had not been viewed in a just light by the Noble Lord; and was of opinion, that no part of the bill went to infringe any of the articles of Union. These articles never put it out of the power of the British Parliament "to alter or improve the existing laws, as far as it should appear necessary for the purposes of civil right and general policy;" and none would, he hoped, deny that the purpose of the bill was not to trench on any private right, but to facilitate the purposes of public justice, and benefit the nation collectively. The Chamber of Review, so much argued against by the Noble Lord, had, nevertheless, been as effectually established, for a time, by the regulations of the Court of Session, as the present bill could render it, and even Juries had been called in to decide on various occasions.—Yet would the Noble Lord affirm, that Parliament was not competent to effect that which this Court had effected? But the right of Parliament had been admitted, not only in the act of Union, but in the memorial of the Faculty of Advocates in Scotland, representing to this House, that no greater boon could be bestowed on the Scottish nation than a participation of the right of trial by Jury, and a general alteration in their system of judicial proceedings. He concluded by observing, that it was rather surprising no greater opposition on the part of the Scotch had been given to the bill, which had now remained on the table near a twelvemonth; and he would naturally be inclined to conclude, that if such were the consequences described by the Noble Lord as resulting from it, the table would long since have been covered with petitions from the Faculty, as well as the different counties of Scotland.

Lord Mansfield objected to the bill in its present state, thinking it too great an innovation upon the existing laws of Scotland. He coincided with the Noble Duke (Montrose,) in wishing that the bill should be divided under different heads, and was wholly inimical to the introduction of the trial by jury, which he considered as by no means consonant with the popular feelings of that part of the united kingdom. In support of these objections, his Lordship cited the opinion of his Noble Father, given upon this subject in the year 1782, when a similar bill was introduced into Parliament. In conclusion, his Lordship expressed a wish that the House should not take any farther steps until the arrival of the Scotch Judges, from whose information the House would derive great advantages.

The question upon the original motion, for going into a Committee, was then put and carried *nem. dis.*; after which, the amendment for dividing the bill, proposed by the Duke of Montrose, was negatived without a division.

The bill was then committed, and the preamble postponed.

Lord Eldon said, that when the Committee should come to the clauses respecting trial by Jury, he should propose that this should be made a separate and distinct bill.

Wednesday, March 25.

Lord Grenville, in a committee on the above bill, said, that in deference to the opinion of certain noble Lords, on such an important subject, he would conform so far to their wishes as to divide the bill into two separate bills. The first would contain the provisions for dividing the Court into three chambers, and for establishing a Court of Review. In this he would propose such amendments in the Committee, as would render it complete in itself. The second bill for introducing the trial by Jury in civil cases, he would bring in if the former passed. The first bill then went thro' the Committee with the proposed amendments, and was ordered to be recommitted after the Easter recess.

Lord Eldon alluded to the arrival of the Lord President and some other Scotch Judges, who claimed the right of sitting within the bar. His Lordship said that the precedent had not been settled in the case of Capt. Porteous, and moved that a Committee be appointed to search for precedents, and to report where the Lords of Session should sit.—Ordered.

*Thursday, March 26**.

Lord Hawkesbury, moved, that the House do, at its rising, adjourn to Wednesday April 8.

Lord Grenville rose, he said, to explain to their Lordships, previous to their adjourning, the circumstances which led to the present state of affairs. It must, under every consideration, have been desirable, that he should be at liberty to enter into this explanation, but much more so, after the unprecedented publication which had taken place, in a mutilated form, for the worst of purposes, of the transactions of his Majesty's Privy Council. He had applied for his Majesty's permission to this effect, and his Majesty, with that benignity, goodness, and love of justice, which characterized his whole reign, had granted his request in the most ample form. When the Administration, of which he formed a part, retired from office in 1801, they had forborne to enter into any statement of the particular circumstances which led to that event, chusing rather to run the risk of those misrepresentations which actually occurred, than subject themselves to the imputation of disclosing the difficulties which opposed their longer continuance in the management of public affairs. The false and calumnious statements, however, which had been industriously circulated within the last few days, joined to the peculiar circumstances of the present crisis, rendered it his duty on this occasion to follow a different line of conduct. It was not true that Mr Pitt's administration had stipulated any thing to the Catholics, as the price of their support to the union; but it was a matter of notoriety, that, in debating that great measure, every encouragement had been held out, that their claims would receive the most favourable attention in the United Parliament. The late illustrious Statesman, to whom he had just alluded, soon after, with his colleagues, looking at the affairs of the Empire in a general point of view, with the intention of using every means of collecting the united strength of these kingdoms, to guard against the dangers which continued to press upon them, felt that they could not, consistently with any principle of sound, just, and liberal policy, shut their eyes to the situation of 4,000,000 of their fellow-subjects in Ireland. His Lordship having here stated the consequences of the advice then given to the Sovereign, went on to relate, that at two subsequent periods, a Noble Viscount (Melville) had, on the part of his Majesty, made proposals for his return to office, unaccompanied with any restriction as to the advice which he might feel it his duty to give on this topic; and in fact, no pledge was exacted when he came into office last year, though from the recent discussion of the Catholic claims his opinion and that of his colleagues could not but be well known. Aware, however, of the delicacy which existed with regard to this question in a certain quarter, it was certainly their wish, if possible, to prevent its being pressed to that large extent to which their own sentiments would go. It was hoped that the Catholic body in Ireland would for the time rest satisfied with the conviction of their favourable disposition towards their claims, and with that mild and liberal policy which the Noble Duke, at the head of the Irish Government, would observe towards them, both from his own feelings and his positive instructions. The Noble Lord then proceeded to state the various circumstances which accompanied the introduction and different stages of the Catholic bill in nearly the same language as that used by Lord Howick in the other House. After finding that no modifications could make the measure accord with the original intentions of ministers, and the hopes of the Catholic party, it was thought proper to drop it altogether. But Ministers felt that some explanation would be called for. They made a reserve to that extent, nor was it at the time objected to; but soon after a demand was made, that they should bind themselves, in writing, never to renew their advice on this subject under any circumstances. This they felt to be totally inconsistent with their oaths as Privy Counsellors, and completely subversive of the British Constitution; as it would shift responsibility from Ministers to the Crown—a doctrine which, contrary to reason, law, and justice, had placed

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(* A political event of the highest importance to the nation, being no less than a total change of his Majesty's Ministers, has very unexpectedly taken place. This extraordinary occurrence originated in a dislike his Majesty expressed to a bill introduced by Lord Howick into the House of Commons on the 5th of March," for allowing all persons who profess the Roman Catholic religion, to serve his Majesty in the army and navy, and to enjoy the free exercise of that religion"—On the 26th of March, before the Easter recess, Lord Grenville in the House of Lords, and Lord Howick in the House of Commons, entered into full explanations of the subject of misunderstanding. As a new ministry has been entirely arranged, (see *Civil Appointments*,) we have thought it proper to postpone the other business of Parliament to make room for this interesting discussion in the present number.)

placed a British Monarch at the bar of his subjects, and led him to the scaffold. His Lordship concluded with earnestly impressing on their Lordships, and the new Ministers, the propriety and necessity of an enlightened and liberal policy towards Ireland, and towards preventing the renewal of religious animosities in the kingdom at large.

Lord Sidmouth, in a short speech, stated that an extraordinary misconception had arisen between the Sovereign and those of the ministers whose particular duty it was to communicate with him on the subject of the Catholic bill. He was fully persuaded, that the intentions of Lord Howick were such as they had been represented by Lord Grenville, and that he conceived they were so understood by his Majesty; on the other hand, he was equally satisfied, that the latter conceived the measure went no further than the Irish act of 1793. This was also the impression which the measure, at its first introduction, made on two Noble and Learned Lords, and on himself. His own sentiments were fully known on this subject. No man was more friendly to toleration, in the most extensive sense which could be assigned to the word, consistently with the reservation of the power of the State to the members of the established church.

Lord Hawkesbury maintained, that, according to the theory and practice of the British constitution, as established in 1688, there were certain principles and institutions which were to be regarded as fundamental. Of this description were the right of petitioning, the independence of the Judges, and the trial by jury, and inseparably connected with these, and all our other invaluable privileges, the permanent existence of the Protestant ascendancy in Church and State. Aware that the explanation now given by the Noble Lord was likely to be made, he had applied for and obtained his Majesty's permission to make such observations as might be necessary to place the transactions which had recently occurred in the clearest point of view. The result of the statement made by the Noble Lord was, that his Majesty, when he gave a reluctant and guarded assent to the propositions relative to the Catholics, concluded that it was not to exceed the principle of the Irish act of 1793. His Lordship, in remarking on the statement submitted by the preceding speaker, showed how this misconception operated in the whole of the subsequent proceedings, until the measure assumed the form of a bill, when it was discovered that Ministers used the term *principle* with a latitude of signification not unusual; whereas his Majesty applied it in its more strict sense, according to which the proposition of the United Parliament, while it granted all the concessions, was also expected to contain all the limitations of the act of 1793.

Lord Moira defended the resolution of the late Ministers, not to comply with the pledge required of them. Their conduct had been actuated by a desire to conciliate the Catholics of Ireland, and to render the population of that country available for the general defence of the empire. Under a proper system of Government, that country, instead of locking up a great part of our troops for the preservation of internal tranquillity, ought to furnish a disposable force of 100,000 men.

Lord Melville thought the pressing of the measure, at this moment, extremely improper. Though Mr Pitt thought it his duty to resign upon a similar question, he distinctly stated, on his retiring from office, that he never would afterwards urge it, while those scruples existed which occasioned his retirement. On his return to office he adhered to this principle, and he would ask the Noble Lord (Grenville,) if he had then come into power, if he would not have acted in the same manner.

Lord Grenville stated, that no consideration could ever have induced him to accept of power on the principle of abstaining from giving his advice on all subjects to his Sovereign, to the best of his judgment.

Lord Holland defended the conduct of himself and his colleagues, on nearly the same grounds with Lord Moira.

Lord Caernarvon, in urging a similar justification, contended, that any Minister who fettered himself with conditions inconsistent with his oath as a Privy Counsellor, would commit an offence tantamount to high treason.

Lord Buckinghamshire explained the views with which the act of 1793 was proposed and adopted in the Irish Parliament, stating, that it was originally intended to propose a similar measure in this country. No consideration, however, could induce him to go the length of the measure recently brought forward.

Lord Erskine professed himself an enemy in principle to the Catholic bill, and therefore could not but highly approve of and admire the firmness displayed on this subject by his Majesty. On the other hand, he was convinced, that his late colleagues acted from the most conscientious motives.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Thursday, March 26.

Mr Huskisson moved, that the House, at its rising, do adjourn until the 8th of April.

Lord

Lord Howick rose to enter into a full explanation of the circumstances which had led to the resignation of his Majesty's late Ministers. After an impressive introduction to the subject, the Noble Lord stated, that it was well known, when the late Administration was formed, what sentiments several of its members entertained in regard to the Catholic question. These sentiments had been promulgated best by their speeches and their votes in Parliament, and it was not to be imagined that such characters, for the sake of office and emolument, would abandon such opinions; neither was there any such concessions demanded or implied. Had any demand of that description been made at that time, it would have been then, as was now, declined to have been given. Ministers were well aware of the difficulties they had to encounter in making concessions to the Catholics, and they hoped, by a prudent and conciliatory line of conduct, to keep the question at rest, and they were successful in doing so for some time. Towards the end of the last year, however, some circumstances occurred in the west of Ireland, which called their prompt and immediate attention to the subject. On the very second day of the session, a Learned and Right Hon. Gentleman (Mr Percival,) more fond of force and coercion than he (Lord Howick) was, recommended the adoption of vigorous measures of that description for the correction of these sudden and unexpected disorders (*Loud cries of Hear! hear!*) Ministers, however, preferred obtaining the same end by other and more constitutional means, namely, a vigorous exercise of the law, notwithstanding this suggestion of their more intemperate advisers; and the bill which he afterwards introduced was calculated to produce great benefit to the empire at large, as it permitted Catholics to serve in the army and navy, a plan which had hitherto been kept out of the ill-regulated policy of the Country. At that time he explained the inducement the bill held out to the Gentlemen of Ireland, which were, that they might hold appointments of any rank, and no measure more likely to be successful could be devised at the moment.

Another circumstance, however, happened just at this time, which was a disposition manifested by the Catholics to prosecute their claims before this House. He (Lord H.) though a supporter of those claims, thought it was most impolitic to attempt it so recently after the failure of their first effort, and wished to hold out inducements sufficient to cause the Catholics to abstain from trying such application. Looking to the law at the union of the two countries, and the pledges so solemnly then given in Mr Hobart's (now Lord Buckinghamshire) dispatches, the principle so desireable to be acted upon was not so much a principle of policy as of good faith, and strict honour and integrity; and with these views did he propose to bring in the bill before alluded to. He proposed it therefore to his Majesty, and his Lordship sent a dispatch to the King with a Cabinet minute on the subject. His Majesty, at first, expressed a strong dissent to the proposed measure; but on Lord Howick's making a respectful representation of the facts and circumstances before stated, his Majesty expressed his consent—his positive consent.

Under that authority his Lordship immediately transmitted a dispatch to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and a meeting took place with the leading Catholic characters in Dublin. A question was, at that meeting, proposed to Mr Elliott, his Excellency's Secretary, whether or not Catholics would be admitted to all ranks, or if the bill held out Staff appointments also? Mr Elliott replied, there was no reserve whatever, but only the oath. The dispatch, and the return to it, were both perused by his Majesty; nor did the King, upon that occasion, express any dissent. Several of the Members of the Cabinet coincided with him in introducing the bill, not in his capacity of a Minister, but as an individual Member of Parliament; in imitation of Mr Pitt's parliamentary reform, and Mr Wilberforce's slave trade abolition. His Lordship then stated, that he began to entertain doubts whether it would be proper to introduce these provisions in the shape of new clauses in the mutiny bill; and, after mature deliberation, the idea was given up, and the measure was brought in by itself in a separate bill. Previous to this, however, he sent another dispatch on this subject to his Majesty; and it was returned by the Sovereign without comment or objection; and he actually sent it off to the Lord Lieutenant.

On the Wednesday following, March 4. Lord Howick said he attended the levee at St James's, and had, after it was over, an interview with his Majesty. His Majesty asked if there was any business coming on in the House of Commons, and his Lordship informed the King, the mutiny bill, with some additional clauses, stood for that evening. The King asked, if that was the Irish business, and his Lordship explained to the Sovereign the difference, and mentioned the separate bill for the Catholics services. On this his Majesty expressed a considerable degree of dislike to the proceeding, and wished it withdrawn. Lord Grenville had an interview with his Majesty

jesty immediately thereafter, and his Majesty did not say a single word upon that subject. The bill was introduced, and tho' it was opposed in the House, he did not learn of any dissent to it on the part of his Majesty until the Wednesday following, when he was informed the King had stated to Lord Grenville his reluctance to grant an extension of immunities to the Catholics beyond those conceded by the Irish Parliament. The moment Lord Howick heard this, he was convinced the King must have misunderstood the precise nature of the bill, or that he had misunderstood what his Majesty had stated to him on the subject. He immediately, therefore, waited on the King, and demanded an audience, and endeavoured to satisfy his Majesty that he had been misled.

In this situation there was no alternative, and the measure was abandoned; in this his Lordship said he felt a powerful sacrifice of private feeling to a sense of public duty. His Lordship said, that his colleagues and himself were under the necessity of acceding to certain stipulations, in regard to nothing of this kind being pressed on his Majesty in future; and the bill having been withdrawn, Ministers were not only enjoined not to press any thing of a similar description again, but were asked to give assurances in writing, not only that they would never propose any measure in any way connected with the Catholics, but should wholly desist from all attempts of such a nature. (*Loud and reiterated cries of Hear! hear! from all parts of the House.*) This, his Lordship said, Ministers had refused to comply with, and the whole detail established several points, first, that the measure did not originate without his Majesty being sufficiently apprised of its grounds. 2dly, That he had every reason to believe that the measure had obtained his Majesty's sanction. 3dly, That when his Majesty had expressed his dissent, every thing was done to conciliate his mind to the bill. These were the facts he wished to state to the House, and he should be ready now, or hereafter, to give every explanation. With regard to the motion, the difference of a few days was trifling, and he should not oppose the adjournment.

Mr Huskisson expressed his approbation of the candid manner in which the Noble Lord acceded to the proposed adjournment. He deprecated debate upon the statement made by the Noble Lord, in the absence of every person connected with that side of the House who was acquainted with the particulars of the statement referred to; and was sure no intention ever existed of misrepresenting facts.

General Loftus stated, that no pledge had been given by the Irish Government for an extension of the act of the Irish Parliament of 1793 to Great Britain; but he admitted that a prospect to that amount had been held out. Nothing was wanting to make the people of Ireland completely happy but good order and industry. The mass of the people were in a situation as comfortable as that of any Hon. Gentleman who heard him. The Catholics were only debarred from being Judges in the Courts of Law, from being Members of Parliament, and from being Generals on the Staff, and these were restrictions that were never felt as grievances by the Catholic body at large.

There was no further conversation, and the House adjourned to the 8th of April.

*** The following is the extract from the minutes of the Privy Council, referred to in Lord Grenville's speech, as having been improperly published in a London news-paper; the words printed in Italics were left out in that publication:—

"That they trusted that his Majesty would see the indispensable necessity of their expressing, on withdrawing the bill, the strong persuasion they felt of the benefits which would result from a different source of policy to the Catholics of Ireland; and they further stated, that it was indispensable to their characters that they should openly avow these sentiments, not only on the present occasion, but in the event of the Catholic petition coming forward; and they further insisted, that the present deference to his Majesty might not be understood as restraining them from submitting, '*for his Majesty's decision*,' from time to time, such measures as circumstances might require respecting the state of Ireland."

The statement given by the Ministers is sufficiently plain respecting the cause of the misunderstanding. But it now appears equally certain, that the decisive tone of the above minute was what gave the highest offence to his Majesty, who, so far from conceding to such a claim on the part of his ministerial servants, on the contrary, demanded a pledge in writing from them, that they would not hereafter agitate a question so distressing to his private feelings, and to his conscience. The Ministers refused to give such a pledge, and they have been dismissed from office.

Respecting the arrangement of a new Administration, we understand that the persons chiefly consulted were the Duke of Portland, Lord Eldon, Lord Hawkesbury, Lord Melville, and Lord Lowther.—During the Easter recess, the new Ministry were completely formed.

(*See Civil Appointments.*)

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Historical Affairs.

SOUTH AMERICA.

Capture of Monte Video.

IT is with much satisfaction we announce the capture of this highly important military station by the British forces under Brig. Gen. Sir Samuel Auchmuty, and Admiral Charles Stirling on the 3d of Feb. last; though we must regret the loss of many valuable officers and men who fell in the attack. The following are the official accounts, which were brought over by Major Tucker of the 72d regiment, and Captain Donelly of the Ardent man of war.

London Gazette Extraordinary.

Downing-Street, April 12.

A dispatch, of which the following is a copy, was received this morning at the office of Viscount Castlereagh, one of his Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, from Brigadier-General Auchmuty, to the Right Honourable William Windham.

SIR, *Monte Video, Feb.* 6. 1807.

I have the honour to inform you, that his Majesty's troops under my command have taken by assault, and after a most determined resistance, the important fortress and city of Monte Video.

The Ardent, with her convoy, arrived at Maldonado on the 5th of January; and I immediately took under my orders the troops from the Cape, commanded by Lieut.-Col. Backhouse. On the 13th, I evacuated that place without opposition, leaving a small garrison on the island of Gortti.

On consulting with Rear-Admiral Stirling, it was determined to attack Monte Video; and I landed on the morning of the 15th, to the westward of the Caretas Rocks, in a small bay about nine miles from the town. The enemy were in great force, with guns on the heights, when we disembarked; but they did not advance to oppose us, and suffered me to take a strong position about a mile from the shore. A trifling cannonade, and some firing at the outposts, commenced in the afternoon, and continued occasionally during our stay on that ground.

On the 19th we moved towards Monte Video. The right column, under the Honourable Brigadier-General Lumley, was early opposed. About four thousand of the enemy's horse occupied two heights to his front and right. As we advanced, a heavy fire of round and grape opened upon us; but a spirited charge in front, from the light battalion under Lieutenant-Colonel Brownrigg, dispersed the corps opposed to him, with the loss of a gun. The enemy on the flank did not wait a similar movement, but retreated. They continued retiring before us, and permitted us, without any farther opposition, except a distant cannonade, to take up a position about two miles from the citadel. Our advanced posts occupied the suburbs, and some small parties were posted close to the works; but in the evening the principal part of the suburbs was evacuated.

The next morning the enemy came out of the town, and attacked us with their whole force, about six thousand men, and a number of guns. They advanced in two columns: the right, consisting of cavalry, to turn our left flank, while the other, of infantry, attacked the left of our line; this column pushed in our advanced posts, and pressed so hard on our out-picquet, of 400 men, that Colonel Browne, who commanded on the left, ordered three companies of the 40th, under Major Campbell, to their support; these companies fell in with the head of the column, and very bravely charged it; the charge was as gallantly received, and great numbers fell on both sides; at length the column began to give way, when it was suddenly and impetuously attacked in flank by the rifle corps, and the light battalion, which I had ordered up, and directed to the particular point. The column

now

now gave way on all sides, and was pursued, with great slaughter and the loss of a gun, to the town. The right column, observing the fate of their companions, rapidly retired, without coming into action.

The loss of the enemy was considerable, and has been estimated at fifteen hundred men; their killed might amount to between two and three hundred; we have taken the same number of prisoners, but the principal part of the wounded got back into the town; I am happy to add, that ours was comparatively trifling.

The consequences of this affair were greater than the action itself. Instead of finding ourselves surrounded with horse, and a petty warfare at our posts, many of the inhabitants of the country separated, and retired to their several villages, and we were allowed quietly to sit down before the town.

From the best information I could obtain, I was led to believe that the defences of Monte Video were weak, and the garrison by no means disposed to make an obstinate resistance; but I found the works truly respectable, with 160 pieces of cannon; and they were ably defended.

The enemy, being in possession of the island of Ratones, commanded the harbour; and I was aware that their gun-boats would annoy us as we approached. A two gun battery was constructed on the 23d to keep them in check, and our posts were extended to the harbour, and completely shut in the garrison on the land side. Their communication was still, however, open by water, and their boats conveyed to them troops and provisions; even water for the garrison was obtained by these means; for the wells that supply the town were in our possession.

On the 25th we opened batteries of four 24 pounders and two mortars, and all the frigates and smaller vessels came in, as close as they could with safety, and cannonaded the town. But finding that the garrison was not intimidated into a surrender, I constructed, on the 28th, a battery of six twenty-four pounders, within a thousand yards of the south-east bastion of the citadel, which I was informed was in so weak a state, that it might be easily breached. The parapet was soon in ruins, but the rampart received little injury, and I was soon convinced that my means were unequal to a regular siege; the only prospect of success that presented itself was, to erect a battery as near as possible to a wall by the south gate, that joins the works to the sea, and endeavour to breach it. This was effected by a six gun battery within six hundred yards, and though it was exposed to a very superior fire from the enemy, which had been incessant during the whole of the siege, a breach was reported practicable on the 2d instant.—Many reasons induced me not to delay the assault, though I was aware the troops would be exposed to a very heavy fire in approaching and mounting the breach. Orders were issued for the attack an hour before day-break the ensuing morning, and a summons was sent to the Governor in the evening to surrender the town. To this message no answer was returned.

The troops destined for the assault consisted of the rifle corps under Major Gardner, the light infantry under Lieutenant-Colonel Brownrigg and Major Trotter, the grenadiers under Majors Campbell and Tucker, and the 38th regiment under Lieutenant Colonel Vassal and Major Nugent.

They were supported by the 40th regiment under Major Dalrymple, and the 87th under Lieutenant-Colonel Butler and Major Miller. The whole were commanded by Colonel Browne. The remainder of my force, consisting of the 17th light dragoons, detachments of the 20th and 21st light dragoons, the 47th regiment, a company of the 71st; and a corps of 700 marines and seamen were encamped under Brigadier-General Lumley to protect our rear.

At the appointed hour the troops marched to the assault. They approached near the breach before they were discovered, when a destructive fire from every gun that could bear upon it, and from the musketry of the garrison, opened upon them. Heavy as it was, our loss would have been comparatively trifling, if the breach had been open, but during the night, and under our fire, the enemy barricadoed it with hides, so as to render it nearly impracticable. The night was extremely dark. The head of the column missed the breach, and when it was approached, it was so shut up, that it

it was mistaken for the untouched wall. In this situation the troops remained under a heavy fire for a quarter of an hour, when the breach was discerned by Captain Renny of the 40th light infantry, who pointed it out, and gloriously fell as he mounted it. Our gallant soldiers rushed to it, and difficult as it was of access, forced their way into the town. Cannon were placed at the head of the principal streets, and their fire, for a short time, was destructive; but the troops advanced in all directions, clearing the streets and batteries with their bayonets, and overturning their cannon. The 40th regiment, with Col. Browne, followed. They also missed the breach, and twice passed through the fire of the batteries before they found it.

The 87th regiment was posted near the north gate, which the troops who entered at the breach were to open for them, but their ardour was so great that they could not wait. They scaled the walls, and entered the town as the troops within approached it. At day light every thing was in our possession, except the citadel, which made a shew of resistance, but soon surrendered, and early in the morning the town was quiet, and the women were peaceably walking the streets.

The gallantry displayed by the troops during the assault, and their forbearance and orderly behaviour in the town, speak so fully in their praise, that it is unnecessary for me to say how highly I am pleased with their conduct. The service they have been engaged in since we landed has been uncommonly severe and laborious, but not a murmur has escaped them; every thing I wished has been effected with order and cheerfulness.

Our loss during the siege was trifling, particularly as we were not sheltered by approaches, and the enemy's fire of shot and shell was incessant. But it is painful for me to add, that it was great at the assault. Many most valuable officers are among the killed and wounded. Major Dalrymple of the 40th was the only field officer killed. Lieutenant Colonels Vassal and Brownrigg, and Major Tucker, are among the wounded. I am deeply concerned to say that the two former are severely so. The enemy's loss was very great, about 800 killed and 500 wounded, and the Governor, Don Pasquil Ruis Huidobro, with upwards of 2000 officers and men, are prisoners. About 1500 escaped in boats, or secreted themselves in the town.

From Brigadier-Gen. the Hon. Wm. Lumley, and from Col. Browne, I have received the most able and the most zealous assistance and support. The former protected the line from the enemy during our march, and covered our rear during the siege. The latter conducted it with great judgment and determined bravery.

The established reputation of the Royal Artillery has been firmly supported by the company under my orders, and I consider myself much indebted to Captains Watson, Dickson, Carmichael, and Willgress, for their zealous and able exertions. Captain Fanshaw of the Engineers was equally zealous, and tho' young in the service, conducted himself with such propriety, that I have no doubt of his proving a valuable officer. Owing to great fatigue, he was taken ill in the midst of our operations, and Captain Dickson readily undertook his office, and executed it with the greatest judgment.

From the heads of corps and departments, from the General Staff of the army, from the Medical, and from my own personal Staff, I have received the most prompt and cheerful assistance.

It is insufficient to say, that the utmost cordiality has subsisted between Rear-Admiral Stirling and myself; I have received from him the most friendly attention, and every thing in his power to grant.

The Captains and Officers of the Navy have been equally zealous to assist us; but I feel particularly indebted to Captains Donnelly and Palmer for their great exertions. They commanded a corps of marines and seamen that were landed, and were essentially useful to us with the guns and in the batteries, as well as in bringing up the ordnance and stores.

This dispatch will be delivered to you by Major Tucker, who was wounded at the assault; and as he has long been in my confidence, I beg leave to refer you to him for farther particulars.

I have the honour to be, &c.

S. Auchmuty.

P. S.

P. S. I am extremely concerned to add, that Lieutenant-Colonels Vassal and Brownrigg both died yesterday of their wounds. I had flattered myself with hopes of their recovery; but a rapid mortification has deprived his Majesty of two most able and gallant officers.

General Return of Killed, Wounded, and Missing.

Total—1 Major, 4 Captains, 3 Lieutenants, 2 serjeants, 6 drummers, 126 rank and file killed; 2 Lieutenant-Colonels, 3 Majors, 5 Captains, 11 Lieutenants, 4 Ensigns, 4 Staff, 20 sergeants, 6 drummers, 366 rank and file, wounded; 8 rank and file, missing.

Officers killed.——Major Dalrymple, 40th, Captain Beaumont, 87th, Captain Mason, 38th, Capt. Renny, 40th, Capt. Dickenson, 95th; Lieuts. Fitzpatrick and Alston, 40th, Lieut. Irvine, 87th.

Officers wounded.—Lieut.-Col. Brownrigg, 11th, since dead, Lieut. Col. Vassal, 38th, since dead;—Major Trotter, 83d, Major Campbell, 40th, Major Tucker, 72d; Capts. Willgress, royal artillery, Crookshanks and Shipton 38th, Rogers and Whetham, 40th;—Lieuts. Brownson, 38th, Smith, Wallace, Johnson, and Ramus, 40th, all severely, O'Brien, Evans, and Macrae, 87th, Chawner, Scanlan, and Macnamara, 95th;—Ensigns Cameron, 40th, White, Wiltshire, and Fraser (since dead.) 38th, Paymaster Wiltshire, and Adjutant Hewitt, 38th, both severely; Surgeon Garret, 38th, Surgeon Wildair, 87th, severely.

ADMIRALTY-OFFICE, *April* 12.

Captain Donnelly, of his Majesty's ship Ardent, arrived this morning with dispatches from Rear-Admiral Stirling, commanding a squadron of his Majesty's ships in the Rio de la Plata, of which the following are copies.

Diadem, off Monte Video, Feb. 8.

SIR,

I have peculiar satisfaction in congratulating my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty on the capture of Monte Video, as well from the importance of the conquest, as from the honour which has thereby been acquired by his Majesty's arms.

Immediately on the arrival of Brig.-Gen. Sir Samuel Auchmuty at Maldonado, it was determined to invest this place; and having assembled our force off the island of Flores, a descent was effected on the 19th ultimo, near Carreta Point, which is about seven miles to the eastward of the town. The enemy had assembled in considerable numbers, and with several pieces of artillery seemed determined to oppose our progress.

The navigation of the Rio de la Plata, with the strong breezes which we have experienced for several weeks, rendered the landing of troops, and assisting their operations, very difficult; but the place chosen was happily adapted to allow the covering vessels, under the direction of Captain Honyman, to approach so close as to command the beach, and notwithstanding the weather threatened, and was unfavourable, the soldiers got all on shore, without a single accident of any kind, and were in possession of the heights before six o'clock, with such things as the General wanted.

On the 19th the army moved forwards; and as an attempt to harrass the rear was expected, I directed boats to proceed close along-shore to look out for and bring off any wounded men, whilst the covering vessels were placed to prevent the enemy from giving annoyance; and I had the happiness to hear that all the sufferers were brought off, in despite of well directed efforts to destroy them. In the evening I dropped with the fleet off Chico Bay, near which the army encamped within two miles of the city.

I had landed about eight hundred seamen and royal marines, under the orders of Captain Donnelly, to act with the troops; and, as I saw no advantage could result from any effort of ships against a strong fortress, well defended at all points, and which, from the shallowness of the water, could not be approached within a distance to allow shot to be of any use, I disposed the squadron so as to prevent any escape from the harbour, as well as to impede a communication between Colonna and Buenos Ayres, and confined my whole attention to give every possible assistance in forwarding the siege, by landing guns from the line of battle ships, with ammunition, stores, provisions, and every thing required by the commander of the forces.

The

The distance which the ships lay from the shore, with the almost constant high winds and swell we had, and the great way every thing was to be dragged by the seamen, up a heavy sandy road, made the duty excessively laborious. The squadron had almost daily 1400 men on shore, and this ship was often left with only 30 men on board.

The defence made by the enemy protracted the siege longer than was expected, and reduced our stock of powder so low, that the King's ships, with all the transports, and what a fleet of merchantmen had for sale, could not have furnished a farther consumption for more than two days, when a practicable breach was fortunately made; and on the 3d instant, early in the morning, the town and citadel were most gallantly carried by storm.

In a conversation with the General on the preceding day, I had made such a disposition of the smaller vessels and armed boats, as appeared most likely to answer the desired purpose, and so soon as Fort St Philip was in possession of the British troops, Lieutenant William Mains, with the armed launches, took possession of the Island of Rattones, mounting ten guns, and garrisoned by seventy men, which surrendered without any resistance, although it is well adapted for defence, and might have given considerable annoyance. A very fine frigate, mounting 28 guns, was set fire to by her crew, and blew up with an awful explosion, as also three gun-boats; but the other vessels in the harbour were saved by the exertion of our people.

It has been much the custom to speak slightly of the resistance to be expected from the Spaniards in this country, and with confidence of the facility which has been given to naval operations by a prior knowledge of the river; but the battles lately fought prove the former opinion to be erroneous, and experience evinces that all the information hitherto acquired, had not prevented the most formidable difficulties.

The conduct of the Captains, Officers, Seamen, and Royal Marines, of the ships and vessels, which I kept with me for this service, has met with my entire approbation; and I feel persuaded, that I should have had occasion to express my satisfaction with the exertions of the officers and crews of the Diomede and Protector, if I had not been obliged to detach them on other service.

I am much indebted to the able assistance which Captain Warren has afforded me; and I admire the zeal, the patience, and diligence of every individual in the fleet, during the incessant fatigue which I have daily witnessed.

Captain Donnelly will have the honour to deliver this dispatch, and is fully able to give their Lordships further particulars.

Enclosed is a list of men belonging to the navy, who were killed or wounded in the batteries; and also a list of the enemy's ships and vessels found in the harbour, with a return of ordnance, &c. on the island of Rattones.

I have the honour to be, &c.

CHARLES STIRLING.

The loss of seamen on this occasion was six killed, 28 wounded, and four missing.

The prizes taken at Monte Video amount to 57, of which are 8 ships from 28 to 20 guns—4 from 16 to 10—the rest Indiamen and merchantmen.

The ordnance taken at Monte Video amount to 300 pieces, from 3 to 24 pounders, 13 mortars, and 10 howitzers.

Thus far the official accounts. We could add many particulars from private letters, did our limits permit.—Lieutenant Colonel Brownrigg of the 11th was Deputy Quarter Master General to the army, and brother of General Brownrigg; he and Lieutenant-Colonel Vassal of the 38th were mortally wounded while they were gallantly leading the troops to the assault of Monte Video. They were both carried to the same house. Lieutenant-Colonel Vassal, who was in an inner room, died the first. On his corpse being brought through the chamber in which Colonel Brownrigg lay, and who had then but a few minutes to live, he exclaimed, "There goes a brave soldier, and I shall soon follow him."

General Beresford, and the other British Officers who are prisoners in South America, were well on the 10th November, and well treated by the Spaniards.

FRANCE.

FRANCE.

Paris, April 2.

The following Imperial message relating to the conscription of 1808 has been received by the Senate :—

MESSAGE OF HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR AND KING.

"SENATORS—We have given orders for a *Projet* of the *Senatus Consultum* to be laid before you, in order for the immediate calling out of the Conscription for 1808.

"The report which our Minister of War has transmitted to us will acquaint you with the various advantages which must be the result of this measure.

"All the nations around us are arming; England has again set on foot an extraordinary levy of 200,000 men.—Other powers, as well as England, are adopting the measure of extraordinary levies, as their last resource. However strong and numerous our armies may be, we are by no means convinced that the regulations of the *Senatus Consultum* will be the less necessary and advantageous. At any rate, the sight of the triple barrier of camps, which encircle our territory, must have the same effect upon our enemy as the triple line of fortresses which defend our advanced frontier. This will leave them without the least hope of gaining any advantage over us, will assuage their fury, and finally, in consequence of their total incapacity to do us any injury, will bring them back to a sense of reason and justice.

"The zeal with which our people have executed the *Senatus Consultum* of Sept. 24. 1805, and that of Dec. 4. 1806, has made a sensible impression upon our gratitude. Every Frenchman will probably shew himself worthy of so honourable a name.

"We have nominated Senators to the command and direction of these interesting young men—Senators who have already distinguished themselves in the career of glory. We flatter ourselves, that in consequence of this determination, you will justify the unlimited confidence reposed in you. The Senators will teach the young men that discipline and patience, which are necessary to support the toils and fatigues of war: you will convince them that these are the principal guarantees of victory: you will teach them to make every sacrifice for the glory of the throne, and good of the country.

"We have triumphed over all our enemies. In the course of six months, we have passed the Main, the Saal, the Elbe, the Oder, and the Vistula: We have made ourselves masters of the strongest places in Europe—Magdeburg, Hameln, Spandau, Stettin, Custrin, Glogau, Breslau, Schweidnitz, and Breig. Our soldiers have proved victorious in several battles; they have taken upwards of 800 pieces of cannon upon the field of battle; they have sent 400 pieces of heavy artillery to France, four hundred Russian and Prussian standards, and made upwards of 200,000 prisoners of war.

"Neither the sands of Prussia, the desarts of Poland, nor the storms of winter—in fact, nothing has been able to damp or extinguish their ardour for obtaining peace by their conquests, and by means of their triumphs, to return to their native country.—Still our armies in Italy, in Dalmatia, and Naples, remain undiminished; our camps at Boulogne, in Brittany, in Normandy, and on the Rhine, remain entire.

"Though at present we ask for new sacrifices from our people, in order that we obtain a greater extent of force, it is not that we should abuse this power for the purpose of prolonging the war. Our policy is invariable. We offered peace to England before the fourth coalition had shewn itself: the same peace we offer to England still. The principal Envoy which England employed in these negociations has made the most public declarations, and in the most unequivocal terms, that the peace would have been both honourable and advantageous to England; thus he has made the justice of our cause appear evident. We are ready to conclude a peace with Russia, upon the same conditions as were signed by her negociator, but which were rejected in consequence of the arts and intrigues of the English.—We are ready to restore to the eight millions of the inhabitants, whom we have conquered, their tranquillity, and to restore to the King of Prussia his capital.

"But though so many trials of moderation, already so often renewed, have not been able to prevail over the deceptions

tions to which England, inflamed as it is by its passions, has had recourse, that power cannot see the possibility of peace but in our annihilation; nothing, therefore, remains for us but to bear the calamities of war, and to throw the shame and odium of it upon that nation, which continues to purchase its monopoly with the blood of the Continent. We shall, in the resources of our own mind, in the courage, devotion, and the power of our people, find certain means to render all the efforts of that coalition, formed of hatred and injustice, null and void, and to turn them to the disgrace of their authors. Frenchmen! we brave all dangers—for the glory and tranquility of our children.

"Given at our Imperial Head-quarters at Osterode, March 20, 1807.—Signed, by order of the Emperor,

H. B. MARET."

The Senate have accordingly issued the decree for calling out the conscripts for next year, which is executed with uncommon rigour and dispatch, throughout the different departments of France. All attempts to evade it are punished with unexampled severity. The lists or registers are all to be completed by the end of April. The actual inrolment and march to the frontiers will not be delayed long after.

We learn further, that this oppressive measure has occasioned disturbances in various departments, the new levy comprehending boys a year younger than what had been formerly demanded for the army.

TURKEY.

From some late events in this quarter, rather unexpected, it appears that the relations betwixt Great Britain and the Ottoman Porte are not on the most friendly footing. The French envoy, Sebastiani, had obtained an ascendancy in the Turkish councils, in spite of the remonstrances of Mr Arbuthnot, the British minister. About the 29th of January, the latter presented a strong note to the Reis-Effendi, demanding the expulsion of the French from the Turkish territory, a renewal of the alliance with Great Britain and Russia, and a free passage of their ships to and from the Black Sea;—and in case of refusing to comply with these demands, a rupture of the friendship with Great Britain was inevitable. The Note further declared,—That a plan was already arranged betwixt the two Courts, by which the one was to send a large force by land into the Mussulman territory, while a powerful fleet of both nations was to force the passage of the Dardanelles, and place themselves before the capital of the Ottoman empire.

These proposals, we are told, were not received by the Turkish minister in a stile of compliance. He said with much energy, "that the Sultan Selim had made the most painful sacrifices to preserve peace and tranquility;—that at the intercession of the powerful King of Great Britain, he had re-established the two Hospidars of Moldavia and Wallachia, and had even received them into his palace, tho' possessed of judicial proofs of their rebellion; and all this to purchase peace and happiness to his subjects;—that in return for these sacrifices, he had only obtained war;—that attacked by Russia, he had been forced to repel arms by arms; but that he had flattered himself that a generous Prince, a nation so enlightened as Great Britain, would appreciate these sacrifices, after having testified to the Sublime Porte its satisfaction at the re-establishment of the Hospidars: That it is a mockery to cite, as a proof of French influence, the facility with which every thing has been done that Britain wished for: that Sultan Selim cannot but appeal to the magnanimity of the Sovereign of Great Britain; that constrained to repel force by force, the Sublime Porte hopes, with the assistance of the Almighty, that he shall triumph over the most unjust of aggressions; and that if at length she must sink, she will perish in defending her capital; and that the British nation, more than any other, will experience irreparable damage from the disasters of the Ottoman Empire; that this Empire exists by the will of the great and merciful God; and that if such be the divine will, from the very despair to which Sultan Selim has been reduced, will result the necessary energy for the defence of the State."

It is said, that several times during this speech the Reis-Effendi could not contain his emotion; and that it was on going out from this conference, that the British Minister got on board the En-

Endymion frigate, ordered the cable to be cut, and recommended the British whom he left at Constantinople to the care of the Danish minister.

From dispatches received from Lord Collingwood off Cadiz, we learn, that he had received intelligence, that Adm. Duckworth, after his junction with Admiral Louis at Tenedos, finding the British ambassador had left Constantinople, passed the Dardanelles with his squadron on the 19th February, against all opposition. But that his subsequent operations were unknown, the Crafty schooner, charged with the Admiral's dispatches, having been unfortunately taken on the passage by three Spanish privateers.

The following extract of a letter from an officer on board the Galatea, dated off Tenedos, Feb. 23d, gives some account of this interesting affair:—

"For several days after the arrival of Sir J. Duckworth, the wind continued unfavourable for the entrance of the Dardanelles; the Vice-Admiral, however, on the 13th, took an eligible station in wait of a change of wind, which occurred on the 18th, and, on the morning of the 19th, at day-break, the signal was made to weigh and form in line of battle. At eight o'clock the Canopus, Vice-Admiral Sir T. Louis, leading the van, with a fresh breeze from south to west, passed within cable's length of the first castle, and received its fire without returning it—the ships in the order of line passed in succession—Sir J. Duckworth hoisted the signal, "permission to return the fire, but not to bring on a general engagement;"—which allowed some of the ships to fire a few shots.

"The Pompee, Sir S. Smith, passed under her three topsails, and fired one gun, to shew her contempt of the enemy, rather than in hostility to his heavy and unremitted discharges. To Sir Sidney was allotted the destruction of the Turkish Squadron, under a supposition that the batteries might give occupation to the rest of the squadron, and this service he executed at half past one. This accounts for the heavy column of smoke which we saw over the land, in the direction of the castles of Abydos and Sestos, at that hour.—The wind has continued fair for three days.

"There are 88 English families on board this ship, all well.—Captain Seecomb, and the Officers generally, have given up every accommodation to the ladies.

"The squadron under Admiral Duckworth consists of the Windsor Castle, Pompee, Canopus, Thunderer, Repulse, and Standard, of the line, with the Meteor and Lucifer bombs."

We have some vague accounts from the Continent of what happened after the passage of the Dardanelles. They state that the British Admiral, with ten of his ships, came to anchor before Constantinople on the evening of the 20th February; that the next morning, the negociation was renewed by Mr Arbuthnot, in conjunction with the Admiral; and that an amicable accommodation was at length effected on the 7th of March, and a treaty of peace signed. Other accounts state, that the Porte rejected all our terms, and that Admiral Duckworth, unwilling to fire on the town, had repassed the Dardanelles on the 5th of March, in order to wait for instructions from his Court.

Whichever of these accounts are nearest the truth, it is stated in the English prints, as from authority, that the instructions to the British Admiral are to endeavour by negociation and conciliation, to recal the Turk to a sense of the obligations which honour and policy prescribe to him, and to refrain from hostilities, if it is possible otherwise to accomplish the objects of his mission.

Whether Mr Arbuthnot's conduct has been considered hasty or impolitic by the British ministers, we cannot say. But we understand he is recalled from his embassy, and Sir Arthur Paget is appointed his successor.

War on the Continent.

The desperate battle of Prussick Eylau on the 7th of Feb. obliged both armies to seek an interval of repose.—But the Cossacks pursued for several days, and took a great number of prisoners, with baggage waggons, forage and provisions, besides rescuing 1400 Prussians who had formerly been made prisoners. Some skirmishes took place on the 12th and 13th at Heilsburgh on the Alle, and at Rossockin on the Polish frontier, in which the Russians were also successful. On the 18th, General Benningsen was joined on the

Alle

Alle by a reinforcement of 40,000 men under General Von Essen, which enabled the Russian Commander to advance towards the enemy; and on the 23d a severe battle commenced at Braunsberg, in which the French were likewise defeated with great loss. Some partial actions afterwards took place on the Passarge, at Wilenburgh, and Zechern, with equal loss on both sides.

The Konigsberg Gazette, of the 26th of March, contains the official report of General Benningsen, relative to the battle of Eylau, of which some account was given in our last. The General states, that the Russian army, in consequence of various detachments made from it, was only 70,000, while the French army amounted to 90,000. The battle, which began about three o'clock in the afternoon of the 7th of February, lasted till midnight of the following day; the loss of the enemy, says the General, according to their own account, amounted to 20,000 killed, and 12,000 wounded, 2000 were made prisoners, and 12 eagles taken. Our loss consists of 12,000 killed, and 7900 wounded; fourteen French Generals were killed or wounded. Nine of our Generals were wounded, but most of them so slightly, that they have already rejoined the army.

We have likewise General Benningsen's official account of the battle of Braunsberg. The fighting, according to these advices, commenced on the 23d, and continued until the 28th February inclusive. The result was glorious to the Russian arms. Seventeen eagles were added to Benningsen's trophies at Petersburgh, a quantity of cannon taken, and the loss of the French, in killed, wounded, and prisoners, exceeded 15,000 men; that of the Russians was stated at 6000.

The advanced corps of the Russian army, under General Platow, comprising 20,000 Cossacks, with the black Hussars of Puchwitz, and the dragoons of Ritz and Voss, were in close pursuit of the French; they came up with the rear guard of the enemy at Preuschmark, and took several prisoners and three pieces of cannon.

Dantzic is declared out of danger. The garrison has been joined by 4000 Russian infantry, and 1200 Cossacks, and has again taken possession of the Fahrwasser, to which the enemy had advanced. A vigorous sally was made from the city on the 19th March, when the French were defeated, with the loss of 400 killed, and 520 taken prisoners. The garrison had 127 killed and 68 wounded.

According to the latest accounts, both the French and Russian armies were combining all their power for a general battle. Bonaparte had ordered all the troops in Pomerania, Prussia, &c. to join the main army. His head quarters were at Finkenstein on the 9th of April.

The Russian army had received an addition of 90,000 men, and were making great preparations for a decisive engagement.

The Emperor Alexander had arrived at Memel on the 2d of April, on his way to the army. He was met there by the King of Prussia. The Grand Duke Constantine was likewise on his way with a large force. He was at Riga on the 26th of March.

Evacuation of Pomerania by the French.

We have however the important and certain intelligence of the entire evacuation of Swedish Pomerania by the French army under M. Mortier, who has been ordered to join the grand army in Poland. On the 1st of April they began their retreat in detachments, of which the Swedish Governor, Baron d'Essen, receiving intelligence, he ordered out two strong columns of infantry, artillery, and hussars, under Gens. de Tavast and Vegesack, with Gen. Baron d'Armfeldt as commander in chief, in order to pursue the enemy. The success of the Swedes was complete. After a pursuit of three days, the French were driven from post to post with considerable loss. At Greiswald and Demmin the garrisons were made prisoners, with all their baggage; and the Swedish soldiers who had been wounded and made prisoners on the 14th of March, were recovered. On the 4th of April Baron d'Armfeldt entered Anclam, where he took some more prisoners, and a considerable booty in money belonging to the French military chest. In these actions, the French lost a great many men and officers in killed and wounded, besides upwards of 1000 made prisoners, among which were 20 officers, and large magazines of all kinds. One

Dutch

Dutch regiment in the French division, say the official accounts, had only 24 men left alive, in the action at Voigdehagen. The Swedes were making great progress in Mecklenburgh, and their army had been joined by 10,000 of the inhabitants, who were much enraged at the French.

Naval Intelligence.

We lament to state, that the Ajax man of war, of 74 guns, Capt. Blackwood, unfortunately took fire on the evening of the 14th of February, off the isle of Tenedos, and blew up in 20 minutes, by which a number of valuable officers and men perished.—*See Deaths.*

Our ships in the East Indies have been successful in capturing a Dutch frigate and two valuable Indiamen, as will be seen from the following dispatch from Rear-Admiral Troubridge, enclosing a letter from Captain Elphinstone, of the Greyhound frigate, dated Java Sea, July 27th, 1806, in substance as follows:—

"After destroying an enemy's cruizer of eight guns and 80 men, and taking another of 12 guns and 32 men, the Greyhound, in company with the Harrier sloop, on the 26th of July, fell in with a Dutch squadron, consisting of the Pallas frigate, of 36 guns and 217 men; the William corvette of 20 guns and 110 men, and two large armed ships richly laden with the produce of the Moluccas; the whole of which were taken, except the corvette, which, taking advantage of the crippled state of our ships, effected her escape. The following is an extract from Captain Elphinstone's letter:—

"At break of day the enemy drew out in order of battle, the frigate taking her station in the van, an armed ship astern of her, the large ship in the centre, and the corvette in the rear. Fortunately for us, the frigate, by forereaching upon her second astern, caused a small opening in their line. It was suggested to me by Mr Martin, master of the Greyhound, that if we could close with the enemy, whilst in that position, our attack might be made to advantage; accordingly, under French colours, we bore up, as if with an intention to speak the frigate; and when within hail, all further disguise being unnecessary, we shifted our colours and commenced firing, which was instantly returned with a smartness and spirit that evinced they were fully prepared for the contest. The Harrier, who had kept close astern of the Greyhound, on seeing her engaged, bore round up, and passed between the frigate and her second astern, raked them both, the latter with such effect, that they bore up in succession to return her fire, thus leaving the frigate separated from them.—Resolved to avail myself of this advantage, I wore close round the enemy's bows, raking her severely while passing; and when on the starboard bow, by throwing our sails aback, we fell into the desired position. The cannonade from the Greyhound was now admirable, while that of the frigate visibly slackened, and at last, after an action of forty minutes, wholly ceased. On hailing to know if they had struck, they answered they had, and Lieut. Home took immediate possession of her. On directing her fire to the ships astern, they all followed her example, except the corvette, who, from being in the rear, had suffered little from the action, and now made off towards the shore. Captain Troubridge immediately wore in pursuit of her, sending, at the same time, a boat to take possession of the large ship, (whose fire he had nearly silenced early in the action.) Perceiving the corvette sailed remarkably well, and that she could spread more canvas than the Harrier, her masts and rigging being entire, I recalled the latter from a chace which was likely to be fruitless."

Captain E. bestows high and well-deserved praise on the officers and crews of his Majesty's ships. The loss on our part was one killed and eleven wounded; that of the enemy 12 killed and 39 wounded—since dead, the captain, pilot, and four seamen, of the Pallas, and a lieutenant and one seaman of one of the Indiamen. The first lieutenant of the same Indiaman was among the killed, the second was wounded, as were the first and fifth lieutenants and other officers of the Pallas.

SCOT-

Scottish Chronicle.

Edinburgh Election.

MONDAY, April 13th, the Right Hon. Robert Dundas of Melville, who had vacated his seat, by accepting the office of President of the Board of Controul, was unanimously re-elected Representative in Parliament for the County of Mid-Lothian. After the election, Mr Sheriff Clerk addressed the meeting with a few observations on the recent important political events, and proposed an address to his Majesty, expressing their thankful acknowledgments for his firm and steady adherence to the Constitution, in Church and State. The address was unanimously agreed to.

A letter was also unanimously ordered to be sent to Mr Dundas, congratulating him on his promotion to an appointment no less honourable to himself than useful to the country.

An elegant entertainment was given in the afternoon in the Assembly Rooms, by desire of Mr Dundas, (who is attending his official duty in London,) to the Freeholders, and to a number of Gentlemen of distinction.

The following Address to his Majesty from the Lord Provost, Magistrates, and Council of the City of Edinburgh, was voted in Council, on Wednesday, April 8th, and presented to his Majesty at the levee on the 15th.

Most Gracious Sovereign,

We, your Majesty's most loyal and dutiful subjects, the Lord Provost, Magistrates, and Council of the city of Edinburgh, beg leave to present to your Majesty this humble expression of our gratitude, for the paternal anxiety with which your Majesty watches over the best interests of your people. We have seen, with cordial admiration, your Majesty's firmness in defence of those laws which guard the reformed Protestant religion, the best blessing which those happy lands enjoy, and the surest bulwark of every constitutional privilege. We rejoice in the conviction, that the measures adopted by your Majesty, in this momentous crisis, will increase the confidence and affection of a grateful people to their King.

That the tried friends of religion and of rational liberty, to whom you have committed the management of the public interests, may ever share your Majesty's Councils; and that the divine mercy may long preserve a Sovereign whom so many benefits endear to us, and the earnest wishes of your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lord Provost, Magistrates, and Council of the city of Edinburgh.

Signed in our name and presence, and by our appointment, and the Seal of the city is hereto affixed, at Edinburgh, this 8th day of April 1807 years.

DONALD SMITH, Provost.

Civil Appointments.

March 25....At the Court at the Queen's Palace,

His Majesty was pleased to deliver the custody of the Privy Seal to John Earl of Westmoreland, K. G. and the oath of Keeper of the Privy Seal was administered to him accordingly.

—To appoint the Right Hon. Robert Banks Lord Hawkesbury, the Right Hon. Robert Stewart (commonly called Viscount Castlereagh,) and the Right Hon. George Canning, to be his Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State.

March 26. His Majesty in Council was pleased to declare John Jeffreys Earl Camden, K. G. Lord President of his Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council.

This day the Right Hon. Spencer Perceval, Chancellor and Under Treasurer of his Majesty's Exchequer, and the Right Hon. Robert Dundas, were, by his Majesty's command, sworn of his Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council.

His Majesty, in Council, was this day pleased to appoint Henry Earl Bathurst, President of the Committee of Council appointed for the consideration of all matters relating to trade and foreign plantations.

Whitehall, March 28. The King has been pleased to appoint George Earl of Galloway to be Lieutenant and Sheriff Principal of the shire of Wigton.

—To appoint Thomas Earl of Selkirk to be Lieutenant and Sheriff Principal of the stewartry of Kirkcudbright.

—To appoint Archibald Colquhoun, Esq. Advocate, to be his Majesty's Advocate in Scotland.

Queen's Palace, March 30. This day the Right Hon. Sir James Pulteney, bart. was, by his Majesty's command, sworn of his Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council.

His

His Majesty having been graciously pleased to deliver the custody of the Seals of the Duchy and County-Palatine of Lancaster to the Right Hon. Spencer Percival, the oath of Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster was administered to him accordingly.

His Majesty, in Council, was this day pleased to order, that, in the absence of the Right Hon. Henry Earl Bathurst, the Right Hon. George Rose should be President of the Committee of Privy Council appointed for the consideration of all matters relating to trade and foreign plantations.

Whitehall, March 31. The King has been pleased to constitute and apppoint his Grace William Henry Cavendish Duke of Portland, the Right Hon. Spencer Percival, William Henry Cavendish Scott Bentinck, Esq. (commonly called Marquis of Titchfield,) the Hon. William Elliot, and William Sturges Bourne, Esq. to be Commissioners for executing the office of Treasurer of his Majesty's Exchequer.

—To grant to the Right Hon Spencer Percival the offices of Chancellor and Under Treasurer of his Majesty's Exchequer.

—To grant to Lieut.-Gen. John Earl of Chatham, the office of Master-General of his Majesty's Ordnance.

—To grant to the Hon. William Wellesley Pole, the office of Clerk of the Ordnance.

—To grant to Mark Singleton, Esq. the office of Storekeeper of the Ordnance.

—To grant to the Hon. Cropley Ashley, the office of Clerk of the Deliveries of the Ordnance.

—To appoint the Right Hon. Lieut.-Gen. Sir James Pulteney, Bart. to be his Majesty's Secretary at War.

Queen's Palace, April 1....His Majesty, in Council, was graciously pleased to deliver the Great Seal to the Right Hon. John Lord Eldon, whereupon the oath of Lord High Chancellor of Great Britain was, by his Majesty's command, administered to his Lordship accordingly.

His Grace Charles Duke of Richmond and Lennox was, by his Majesty's command, sworn of his Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council. And,

His Majesty, in Council, was pleased to declare his Grace Charles Duke of Richmond and Lennox Lieut.-General and Gen.-Governor of that part of the united kingdom called Ireland.

Whitehall, April 3. The King has been pleased to appoint Joseph Hunt, Esq. to be Treasurer of the Ordnance.

April 4. The King has been pleased to grant the dignity of an Earl of the united kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland to the Right Hon. William Viscount Lowther, and the heirs male of his body lawfully begotten, by the name, style, and title of Earl of Lonsdale, in the county of Westmoreland.

—To appoint his Grace James Duke of Montrose, to be Master of the Horse to his Majesty.

—To constitute and appoint the Right Hon. Henry Baron Mulgrave, James Gambier, Esq. Admiral of the Blue Squadron, Sir Richard Bickerton, Bart. Vice Admiral of the White Squadron, William Johnstone Hope, and Robert Ward, Esquires, the Right Hon. Henry John Viscount Palmerston, and James Buller, Esq. to be his Majesty's Commissioners for executing the office of High Admiral of the united kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.

—To constitute and appoint the Right Hon Robert Dundas; John Jefferys Earl Camden; Robert Banks Lord Hawkesbury; Henry Viscount Castlereagh; the Right Hon. George Canning; his Grace William Henry Cavendish, Duke of Portland; the Right Hon. Spencer Perceval; George Percy, Esq. (commonly called Lord Lovaine;) the Rt. Hon. John Baron Teignmouth; the Right Hon. Thomas Wallace, and George Johnstone, Esq. to be his Majesty's Commissioners for the management of the affairs of India.

Queen's palace, April 8.—The Right Hon. Henry Viscount Melville, the Right Hon. John Lord Teignmouth, and the Right Hon. Major Gen. Sir Arthur Wellesley, K. B. were, by his Majesty's command, sworn of his Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council.

Whitehall, April 11.—The King has been pleased to order a writ to be issued under the Great Seal of the united kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, for summoning the Right Hon. Charles William Montagu Scott (commonly called Earl of Dalkeith) up to the House of Peers, by the stile and title of Baron Tynedale of Tynedale, in the county of Northumberland.

—To order a similar writ to be issued for summoning the Right Hon. George Gordon (commonly called Marquis of Huntly) up to the House of Peers, by the stile and title of Baron Gordon of Huntly, in the county of Gloucester.

—To appoint his Grace Alexander Duke of Gordon, to be Keeper of the Great Seal of Scotland.

—To grant to the Right Hon. George Rose the office of Treasurer of his Majesty's Navy.

Foreign Office, April 11.—The King has been pleased to appoint the Right Hon. Granville Leveson Gower (commonly called Lord Granville Leveson Gower) to be

His

his Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary at the Court of St Petersburgh.

Downing Street, April 10.—The King has been pleased to appoint John Hollo way, Esq. Vice-Admiral of the Red, to be Governor and Commander in Chief of the Island of Newfoundland.

—To appoint Hugh Elliot, Esq. to be Captain-General and Governor in Chief of the island of Barbadoes.

—To appoint William Lukin, Esq. to be Captain-General and Governor in Chief of the Island of Dominica.

—To appoint Sir James Cockburn, Bart. Governor and Commander in Chief of the Island of Curacoa.

Queen's palace, April 23....This day the Right Hon. Thomas Lord Manners was sworn of his Majesty's most Hon Privy Council, and at the same time appointed Lord High Chancellor of Ireland.

His Majesty was pleased to appoint the Right Hon. Sir Arthur Paget, ambassador plenipotentiary to the Sublime Porte.

Whitehall, April 25 ——His Majesty is pleased to appoint the Right Hon. Francis Lord Napier to be his Majesty's High Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

—To appoint William Oliver, jun. Esq. advocate, Sheriff depute of the county of Roxburgh, in room of William Oliver, sen. Esq. resigned.

MARRIAGES.

At Antigua, J. S. Tracey, Esq. (Secretary to Rear-Admiral Sir A. Cochrane,) to Miss Ann Osborne, daughter of —— Osborne, Esq. of that island.

March 11. At Glasgow, Alexander MacArthur, Esq. to Miss Margaret Hill, second daughter of the late George Hill, Esq. of Hillend, near Glasgow.

18. The Rev. John Brown, minister of Gartmore, to Miss Margery Graham, daughter of the deceased George Graham, Esq. of Duniverig.

23. At Ayr, the Rev John Roxburgh, minister of the gospel, Kilmaurs, to Miss Margaret Bannatine Robertson, daughter of Robert Robertson, Esq. Ayr.

27 At Edinburgh, the Rev. Mr James Somerville, minister at Symington, to Miss Caroline Welsh, youngest daughter of the deceased Mr Alex. Welsh, late in Putervin.

28. At London, David Scott, Esq. of Dunninald, to Miss Caroline Grindall, of Portland-place.

30. At Fortissot, Mr William Laurie, Wilsontoun, to Miss Catharine Meek, youngest daughter of the late William Meek, Esq. of Fortissot.

30. At Carlisle, Richard Lowry, Esq. to Miss Jane Wilson, fifth daughter of the late Alexander Wilson, Esq. of Carlisle.

31. At Greenwich, James Reid, Esq. of the Island of Jamaica, to Miss Helena Reid, daughter of William Reid, Esq. of Greenwich.

31. At Kirkcaldy, Mr John Gowan, architect, Edinburgh, to Miss Margaret Stirling, daughter of the late Mr Andrew Stirling, ship-builder in Dysart.

31. At Glasgow, Mr Duncan Smith, merchant, to Miss Duncan, daughter of Andrew Duncan, Esq.

.... Sir Thomas Strange, Chief Justice of Madras, to Miss Burroughs, daughter of Sir William Burroughs.

April 2. At Aberdeen, Hugh Gordon, Esq. late of Madras, to Miss Elizabeth Forbes, daughter of William Forbes, Esq. of Echt.

2. At Edinburgh, Mr Michael Bogle MacFarlane, merchant, Glasgow, to Miss Martha Richmond, youngest daughter of Mr John Richmond, manufacturer, Edinr.

4. At East Acton, Middlesex, Jas. Wolfe Murray of Cringletie, Esq. to Miss Strange, daughter of James Strange, Esq in the service of the Hon. East India Company.

6. At Glasgow, Mr James Gibson jun. writer in Edinburgh, to Miss Eliza Menzies, eldest daughter of William Menzies, Esq. Gorbals.

6. At Glasgow, Mr Robert Boyd, merchant, Kilmarnock, to Miss Agnes Hutton, of Kendal.

9. At Edinburgh, James Nairne, Esq. writer to the signet, to Miss Hill, eldest daughter of the deceased Dr John Hill, Professor of Humanity in the University of Edinburgh.

April 13. At Edinburgh, Mr Robert Hardie, merchant, Kelso, to Miss Millar, daughter of Mr Millar, broker, Wharf, London.

15. At Montrose, Lieut. Alex. Thomson, of the 46th regiment, to Miss Christian Guise, only daughter of Samuel Guise, Esq. late Surgeon in the East India Company's service at Bombay.

20. At Edinburgh, Mr James Ruthven of New York, to Miss Jane Ruthven, second daughter of Mr James Ruthven, printer, Edinburgh.

BIRTHS.

Nov. 8. At Calcutta, the Lady of John Walker, Esq. a daughter.

March 10. At Edinburgh, the Lady of Alexander Maconochie, Esq. Advocate, a daughter.

24. At Olivebank, Mrs William Arbuthnot, a son.

24. At Melrose, Mrs Erskine, a daughter

28. At Glasgow, Mrs Robert Dennistoun, a son.

30. At Kirkliston, Mary Downs, wife of Thomas Ker, ploughman, of two sons and a daughter, who, with their mother, are all likely to do well.

April 1. Mrs Roy of Nesthorn, a son.

4. At Fairnington, Mrs Elliot, of two sons.

5. At Beverley, Mrs Patrick of Treehorn, a son.

7. At Brathay-hall, Windermere, the Lady of John Hadden, Esq. a son.

9. At Aldourie, Inverness-shire, Mrs Fraser Tytler, younger of Belnain, a son.

10. At Hopeton House, Lady Jamima Johnstone Hope, the Lady of Capt. Hope, of his Majesty's ship Theseus, a daughter.

13. At Ayr, the Hon. Mrs Roger Rollo, a son.

14, At London, Lady Kinnaird, a son and heir.

—. The Lady of Henry Thornton, Esq. M. P. a daughter.

—. At Manchester, the Lady of Major James Erskine, of the 48th regiment, a son.

—. At Bath, the Lady of Captain Purvis, of the 1st dragoons, a son.

DEATHS.

July 31. 1806. At Kishnagur, in Bengal, Lieut. William Staig, 3d regt Bengal native infantry, youngest son of David Staig, Esq. banker, Dumfries.

Aug. In Bengal, Lieut. Edward Durham Hall, 26th native infantry.

4. At Calcutta, Francis Perigrine Kinloch, Esq. youngest son of the deceased Sir James Kinloch of Nevay, Bart.

—. Captain Edward Dennison, of the Verunah East Indiaman; and also his wife and child, a few hours after they landed at Bengal.

Sept. 23. At Barrackpore, in the East Indies, Ensign John George Napier, youngest son of the Hon. Maj. Gen. Mark Napier.

24. Mr Peter Paton, midshipman in the Fame Indiaman, only son of the late Capt. Peter Paton, a promising young man of 21. He fell in an action between that vessel and the Piedmontese French frigate, in the Bay of Bengal.

Lately, at Madras, Major J. Maclean, of the Hon. Company's Cavalry, on that establishment.

Oct. 20. At Agra, Capt. David Bethune Lindesay, of the 4th N. I. Bengal, son of Henry Bethune, Esq. of Kilconquhar.

Nov. 2. At Calcutta, aged 54, James Lockhart, Esq.

7. At ditto, on her way to Europe, Mrs Dundas, wife of Philip Dundas, Esq. Governor of Prince of Wales's Island.

Dec. 4. At Berndorff, in Germany, Mrs Monro, widow of Dr Donald Monro, one of the Physicians General to the Army.

17. At Augusta, in Georgia, of a short illness, Mrs Ann Murray, spouse of Dr John Murray, late of Glasgow.

—. At Fairfield House, Jamaica, Fairlie Christie, Esq. a leading Member of the Assembly for Port Royal these last thirty years, and son of the late Mr Christie of the Customs, Ayr.

Feb. 3. 1807. Major James Dalrymple, of the 40th regiment, while leading it to the assault on Monte Video. He was second son of the late Lieut.-Colonel Dalrymple, who took the Fort of St Fernando de Omoa, in the Bay of Honduras, by escalade, during the American war.

—. At St Petersburgh, Princess Bariatinsky; she was the Hon. Miss Dutton, second daughter of Lord Sherborne.

14. Mr David Clerk, midshipman, eldest son of James Clerk of Chesterhall, Esq. Sheriff Depute of Edinburghshire. He was unfortunately drowned, when escaping from the flames of the Ajax man of war, off the Dardanelles.

14. Mr Edward Manners, Midshipman, eldest son of the late Mr John Manners, surgeon in London, unhappily shared the same fate.

March 7. At Crossflatt, Mr Robert Aird, jun. of Crossflatt.

—. At Clifton, Capt. James Irvine Jackson, 6th regiment of foot.

13. At Bridgend of Perth, Mr James Brown, nursery and seedsman; and on the 22d, Mrs Ann Edington, his spouse.

13. At the manse of Tillicoultry, the Rev. Dr Alexander Stirling, minister of that parish, in the 64th year of his age.

17. At Perth, Mr Robert Murray, mason.

17. At Edinburgh, Mrs Auchinleck, relict of Mr Gilbert Auchinleck, cutler, Edinburgh.

18. At Kelburn, the seat of the Earl of Glasgow, much regretted, Mrs Margaret Muir, wife of John Hill, Esq.

18. At Glasgow, Mr William Meikle, plasterer, aged 69, late Deacon of the Incorporation of Wrights in Glasgow.

—. At Ednam, Mr Samuel Robertson, brewer.

—. At Haltree, Mr William Stevenson, farmer.

19. At Mullingar, Ireland, James Murray, Esq. Civil Engineer of the Royal Canal, Dublin, who has left no superior in his profession, and few equals as a private gentleman.

—. At London, in the 93d year of her age, Mrs Elizabeth Grey, mother of the Countess Grey, and Grandmother of Lord Viscount Howick.

.... At Marlow, General Jarry, in the 75th year of his age. He was a native of France.

France, and had been for a considerable part of his life in the service of the great King of Prussia. He possessed much military science, and was appointed Superintendant of the Royal Military Academy at its first institution.

—. Lady Alston, relict of the late Sir R. Alston.

—. At Southampton, Sir William Dunkin, late one of the Judges of the Supreme Court of Judicature, Calcutta.

20. At London, William George Sibley, Esq Treasurer of the India House

20. At ditto, Mr James Donaldson, jun. of Bloomsbury-square.

—. At ditto, the Right Hon. Thomas Viscount Hawarden.

—. At Bath, the Hon. Mrs Brown, aunt to the Marquis of Sligo.

—. Sir John Alston, Bart. late of Cambridge.

20. At Glasgow, Miss Pollock of Pollock.

20. At Edinburgh, Mr Edward Liston, brush manufacturer.

23. At the manse of Aberdour, Mrs Janet Gillespie, relict of the Rev. Mr Alexander Bryce, late minister of Kirknewton.

23. At Innerbadden, Duncan Stewart, Esq of Innerbadden.

23 At Edinburgh, Mr John Pleydell, merchant, son to the deceased Samuel Pleydell, M. D. Jamaica

23. At Inverness, William Chisholm, Esq. M. D. late Provost of Inverness.

23. At London, Mrs Fearn, wife of John Fearn, Esq. and sixth daughter of the late George Mackay, Esq. of Bighouse.

—. At Brompton, Sawrey Gilpin, Esq. R. A. aged 73, a celebrated painter, particularly of horses and wild animals.

24. At Aberdeen, aged 84, Mrs Elizabeth Leslie, relict of the late Mr Alexander Yeats, merchant in Rotterdam.

24. At Edinburgh, Mrs Eleonora Robertson, widow of the late James Cunningham, Esq. of Hyndhope.

24. At Doonside, William Crawford, Esq. of Doonside.

24. At Ayr, Robert Aiken, Esq.

24. At Montrose, at the advanced age of 87, Mr John Wallace, teacher of dancing. He was a native of Moulin in Perthshire; and having embraced the cause of the unfortunate Charles Stuart, was wounded at Culloden. He came to Montrose in 1746, and continued to exercise his profession in that neighbourhood for about 55 years, when his infirmities compelled him to retire.

24. At Banff, Mrs Isabel Reid, spouse of Mr James Imlach, merchant there.

24. At Stonehaven, Mrs Elder, aged 82.

25. At Edinburgh, Sir James Ramsay of Balmain, Bart. He is succeeded in the title by his only brother, Captain Thomas Ramsay, late of India.

26. At Aberdeen, aged 73, Mrs Martha Cuthbert, relict of Peter Cuthbert, Esq. late in the Hon. East India Company's service.

26. At Newfield, Calton, Glasgow, Mr James Wallace, of Barrowfield distillery.

27. At Dunbar, Mr James Wilson, merchant there.

27. At Stirling, Mr John Hervey, merchant there.

27. At Whins, Stirling, Mr John Campbell

—. At Londonderry, Ireland, Mrs Margaret Inglis, wife of Mr James Gordon, late Superintendant of Water at Edinburgh, and daughter of the late Mr William Inglis, surgeon in Edinburgh.

28. In Gorbals, Glasgow, Malcolm White, in the 102d year of his age. He retained all his faculties to the last. He used to go about the town and country selling religious books; he was a native of Cowal, Argyleshire.

28. At Culnakyle House, in Strathspey, Miss Marianne Grant, eldest daughter of the late Sir Ludovick Grant of Grant, Bart.

28. At Leith, Mr James Alison, ropemaker, Leith.

28. At Hightae, in the parish of Kelton, Captain James Lorimer, of the royal marines, aged 78 years.

—. At Stewart hall, Mrs Gallaway, relict of Robert Gallaway, Esq. of Barrowmeadow.

29. At his seat, Ashley Park, in Surrey, aged 78, Sir Henry Fletcher, Bart. of Clea Hall, in the county of Cumberland; of which county he was the honourable representative forty years.

29. At London, after a few days illness, in the 21st year of his age, Thomas Grahame, of Trinity College, Cambridge, eldest son of James Graham, Esq. of Portland-place.

29. At Galashiels, James Blaikie, Esq. of Easter Longhaugh.

29. At Hamilton, four months after marriage, Mrs Martha Roxburgh, wife of Mr James Hendry, merchant, Paisley.

30. At Ayr, the Rev. Dr Wm. M'Gill, one of the ministers of Ayr, in the 75th year of his age, and 46th of his ministry; a man of no common character; he was possessed of a strong and discerning mind; he carefully studied the sacred scriptures; he explained them with great clearness and accuracy, and his illustrations of religious truths were varied and impressive. By his hearers, and by all who had the pleasure of being intimate with him, he was very highly

ly esteemed, and his death is deeply regretted.

30. At Hill-house, Berwickshire, John Somerville, Esq. of Ivelaw, aged 82 years.

—. At Musselburgh, Captain Thomas Jones, formerly of the 48th regiment.

30 At Keith, James Stewart, Esq. of Carnborrow, aged 86

30. At Mountcoffer, Wm. Rose, Esq.

30. At Olivebank, Helen Bailie Arbuthnot, daughter of William Arbuthnot, Esq.

31. At Edinburgh, Mrs Margaret English, relict of the deceased William Cadell, Esq. Bankfoot, Prestonpans.

31. At Southampton, Mrs Sutherland, the widow of James Sutherland, Esq. Judge of the High Court of Admiralty at Minorca—and on the 28th, in Charlotte street, Portland-place, her youngest grand-daughter, Miss Jane Hartley Sutherland, a most endearing child.

31. At Exmouth, in Devonshire, much and justly regretted, Dr James Short of Borrowstounness, physician in the service of the Hon. East India Company, on the Bombay establishment.

.... At Clifton, Dowager Countess of Mayo.

.... Lady Viscountess Lifford.

—. At London, Mr Opie, the celebrated painter. He had just reached the 45th year of his age.

April 1. At Duddingston House, aged 45, suddenly, Walter Little Gilmour, Esq. of Craigmillar.

2. At Greenock, Mr Hugh Crawford, jun. writer, in the 25th year of his age.

2. Lieut.-Col. Edgar Hunter of Linthill.

—. At Singlie, Mrs Margaret Scott, spouse of Mr William Scott, Singlie.

3. At Mid-Calder, Mr Alexander Lourie, sen. portioner of Drumcross, at the advanced age of 92 years.

3. At Leith, Mrs Christian Carstairs, spouse of Mr Duncan M'Intyre, merchant there.

3. At Dumbarton, Mr Alexander Mackenzie, merchant, and lately one of the Magistrates of Dumbarton.

3. At Glasgow, Mr John Hoome, Collector of Excise.

3. At his seat at Santon Downham, in Suffolk, in the 79th year of his age, the Right Hon. Charles Sloane Cadogan, Earl of Cadogan, Viscount Chelsea, and a Trustee of the British Museum. He was a nobleman possessed of much urbanity, and whose loss will be greatly regretted in the neighbourhood in which he lived.

3. At Worcester, on his return from Bath, where he had resided for some months for the recovery of his health, John Bonar, Esq. Solicitor to the Hon. Board of Excise in Scotland; who, in early life, was distinguished for his taste, and scientific acquirements; was one of the Founders, and first Secretary to the Speculative Society, (an institution which has become a valuable addition to the liberal education of the students of the University of Edinburgh,) in which his eloquence procured for him the esteem and admiration of his contemporaries. His profound knowledge of the Revenue Laws, was united with an acute discernment in the application of them, which obtained for him the confidence of the successive Crown Lawyers, and the approbation of the Court of Exchequer, and Board of Treasury. From his extensive knowledge, he formed regulations for the duties of the officers of Excise, and framed the report to the Hon. House of Commons on the Scottish distilleries. For many years he was the legal adviser of the Board of Excise in the management of the interests of the Sovereign, in one of the most important branches of the public revenue

3. At Memsie, Mrs Fraser of Memsie, daughter of the late Thomas Martin, Esq. of Allersford-hall, in Essex.

—. At London, Mr Bryan Bell, youngest son of James Bell, Esq. of Berwick upon-Tweed.

4. At London, Mrs Sarah Donaldson, wife of George Hathorn, Esq. merchant there.

5 At Craigsanchar, Fife, in the 81st year of her age, Mrs Cochrane Stewart, sister to the late Sir John Stewart of Allanbank, Bart.

7. At Kilbarchan, Robert Stevenson, in the 101st year of his age. He was born at Overtoun in that parish, the 1st January 1707, and had no complaint till a few hours before he died.

8. At Baldovie, Mrs Farquharson.

9. At Edinburgh, Mr John Johnston, late of Kellobank, aged 87.

9. At ditto, Mrs Catharine Gordon, relict of Mr Donaldson, late factor to the Earl of Wemyss.

9. At the manse of Cupar Angus, the Rev. Mr Charles Keay, minister of that parish.

10. At Bloomhill House, the Rev. Alexander Meldrum of Easter Kincaple.

10. At Aberdeen, in the 84th year of her age, Mrs Elizabeth Forbes, relict of the deceased Rev. John Mair, late minister of Rayne.

10. At Edinburgh, Miss Manderston, daughter of the late Patrick Manderston, merchant.

10. At Stirling, Mrs Ann Stewart, daughter of the deceased Alexander Stewart, Esq. of Annat.

10. At Ironside House, Mrs Barbara Shearer,

Shearer, spouse to Mr Davidson, Surveyor of Taxes, Edinburgh.

April 11. At Edinburgh, Mr James Burn, wright, aged 85.

11. At Cairncurran, William Cunningham, Esq. of Cairncurran.

12. At Edinburgh, at an advanced age, Mrs Helen Elphingston, widow of Dr Thomas Elliot, physician in Edinburgh.

12. At Maryville, near Belfast, Walter Wilson, Esq. late of Croglin, in Dumfriesshire.

13. At London, Robert Heron, Esq. Author of the History of Scotland, Tour thro' the Highlands, and several other works of merit.

13. At Edinburgh, Mrs Christina Smith Halket, widow of Major William Sands, in the service of the Hon. East India Company, and daughter of the late Col. Halket.

13. At Greenhall, aged 85, Theophilus Ogilvie of Achlunies, Esq. many years Collector of Customs at Aberdeen.

15. At Edinr. in the 89th year of his age, Mr William Peebles, teaching master of the Orphan Hospital in that city for above 48 years; during that long period, he discharged the duties of that station with singular fidelity and unwearied attention.

15. At ditto, Mrs Barbara Riddell.

—. At Leith, Mr Hugh Morton, wright.

16. At Edinburgh, Thomas Crawfuird, youngest son of Mr Archibald Crawfuird, W. S.

16. At Canongate, Mr George Rodger, late cork cutter there.

Price of Stocks.

1807.	Bank Stock.	Omnium.	3 per cent Consols.
April 3.	——	¼ ½ pr.	62 ⅝
10.	225 6	½ ...	62 ½
17.	230 ¼	1½ ...	62 ½
24.	234 5 6	1½ ...	62 63

Prices of Grain per quarter, Corn Exchange, London.

1807.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Pease.
	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.
April 3.	68 78	28 33	20 30	50 70
10.	68 76	28 32	20 30	46 64
17.	68 80	28 34	21 29	46 62
24.	68 78	28 34	20 30	44 60

Prices of Grain at Haddington.

1807.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Pease.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s.
April 3.	41 0	31 0	22 0	24 0
10.	41 0	32 0	23 0	22 0
17.	42 0	30 0	24 0	24 0
24.	41 6	32 0	24 0	21 0

Prices of Oat, Pease, and Barley Meal, in Edinburgh Market, per Peck.

1807.	Oatmeal. Bolls.	Oatmeal. Price.	Pease & Barley Meal. Bolls.	Pease & Barley Meal. Price.
		d. d.		d. d.
April 7.	260	18 17½	48	15 13
14.	270	18 17½	60	15 13
21.	200	18 17½	50	15 13
28.	250	18 17½	64	15 13

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Timothy Stiffrump, and the very curious communication of *J. M.* will probably appear in our next.

Mr Glasford's poems display considerable genius, and as juvenile, are very promising. We must hint however that they are still somewhat deficient in taste and correctness. We shall be glad to hear from him again.

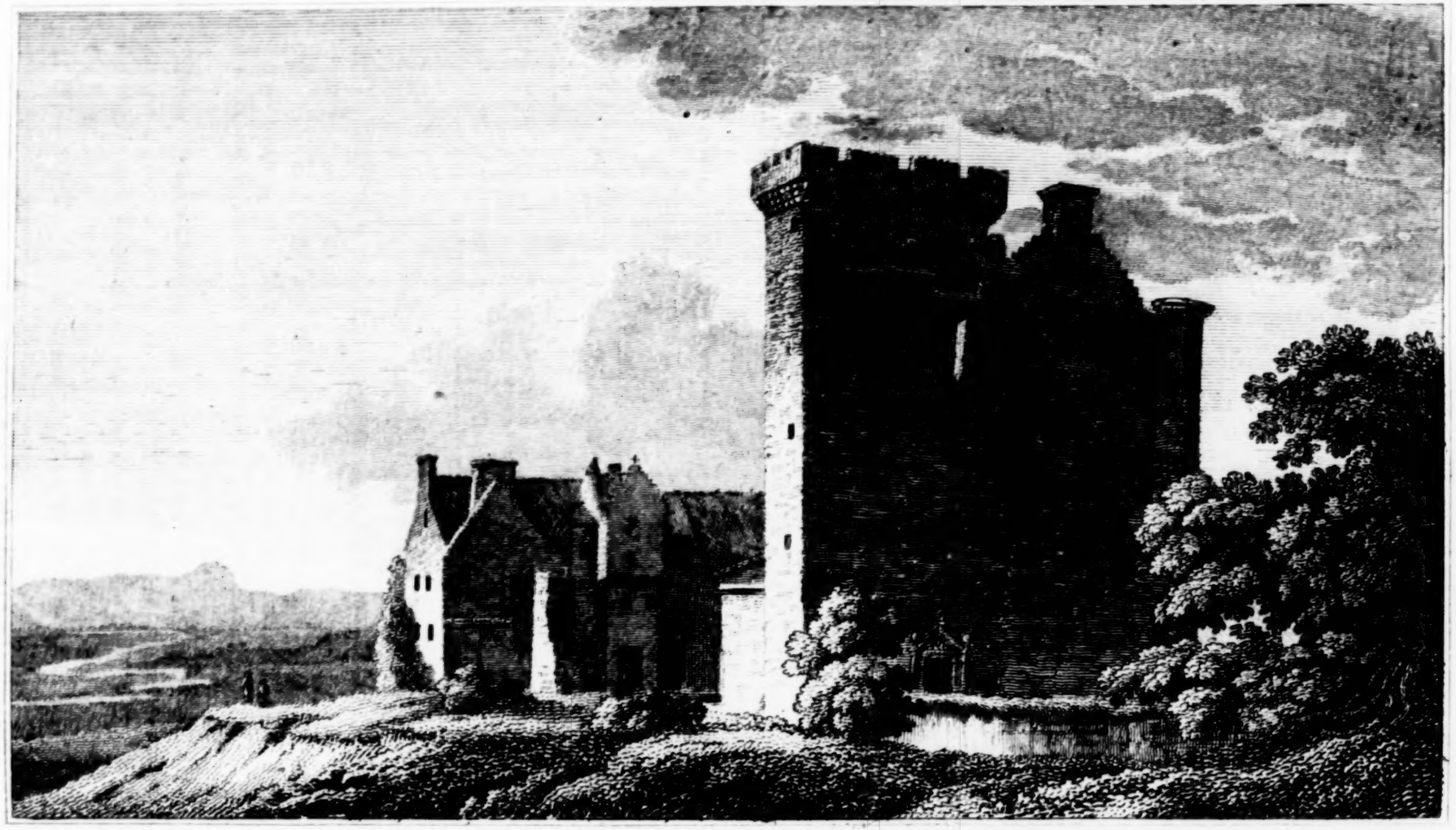
Harvest Home will appear in an early number, though we would rather advise the ingenious author to cultivate serious than humorous poetry.

We shall avail ourselves of the favours of *Ignotus*.

R. J. and the lines to *Mr Low*, Dunfermline, are under consideration.

G. W.—*A. H.*—*N. A.*—and *J. B.*—will not suit our Miscellany.

Erratum.—p. 176, l. 16—*For* EDINA *read* AULD REEKIE.



CLACKMANNAN TOWER